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HISTORY

AND

ANTIQUITIES

OF THE

COUNTY of NORFOLK.

VOLUME V.

CONTAINING

THE HUNDREDS OF

Freebridge Lynn, Freebridge Marſh-land, and Gallow.

Pro me: ſi merear, in me.

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THE HISTORY OF NORFOLK.

FREEBRIDGE Hundred and Half.

IN that grand national record made by the Conqueror, and called by him Doomſday Book, this hundred and half was wrote Frednebruge, or Fredebruge, and comprehends what is now called Freebridge Lynn hundred, and Freebridge Marſhland half hundred. It is ſuppoſed to have taken its name from the bridge croſs the river Ouſe at St. German's, which was at that time, according to Dugdale, but 12 perches, or 198 feet over.

As frequent reference is made to Doomſday book in this Hiſtory, it may not be improper to give a ſhort deſcription of it.

William the Conqueror, ſoon after his coronation at Weſtminſter, December 26, 1066, ordered a general ſurvey to be taken of all the lands in the kingdom; their extent in each hundred or diſtrict; their proprietors, tenures, and value; the quantity of meadow, paſture, wood, and arable land, which they contained; and, in ſome counties, the number of tenants, cottagers, and vaſſals of all denominations who lived upon them. He appointed commiſſioners for this purpoſe, who entered every particular in their regiſter "by the verdict of juries;" and after a labor of many years, they brought him, in 1085, an exact account of all the landed property in the kingdom. This monument, called DOOMSDAY BOOK, the moſt valuable piece of antiquity poſſeſſed by any nation, is ſtill preſerved in the Exchequer.

William the Conqueror, with a few exceptions only, gave to his Norman followers all the lands and eſtates of the Saxons throughout the realm, and particularly in this county of Norfolk, thus diſpoſed of the principal manors:

To Hugh de Abrancis	- -	12 manors
Odo, biſhop of Bayeux	-	22
Alan Rufus	- - -	81
Walter Giffard	- - -	28
Ralph Waker	- -	9
William, earl of Warren		139 lordſhips
Cado de Rye	- -	9 manors
William de Albini, pincerna		4 manors
Humphry de Bohun	-	1 manor
Ralph de Limeſi	- -	1 manor
Peter de Valoines	- -	20 lordſhips
Ralph de Baynard	- -	44 manors
Ralph de Tony	- -	19 lordſhips

William the Conqueror gave the lordſhip of Brooke, in the hundred of Loddon, to the abbey of Bury St. Edmund's, when he firſt ſupplicated that ſaint's favor and protection, falling proſtrate before him, and placing a ſmall knife, wrapped up, on the altar, in the preſence of many of his chief nobility.

Odo, biſhop of Bayeux, in Normandy, and earl of Kent, had a grant of this hundred, as alſo of Smithdon, of his half-brother, the Conqueror, in 1066; but it was afterwards taken from him, and given to William de Albini, the king's butler, whoſe heirs male enjoyed it till the year 1242, when the lord Tateſhale, in right of his wife, Mabel, eldeſt daughter of Hugh de Albini, the laſt earl of Suſſex and Arundel, held it by ſervice, of being in like manner king's butler.

By marriage it came to ſir Oſbert de Caily, and from his heirs to ſir Roger Clinton, in whoſe family it remained till the 16th of March, 1465, when Robert Clifton, eſq. of Denver in Clackcloſe hundred, let it by deed to Thomas Playters, eſq.

Thomas Grey, marquis of Dorſet, conveyed it to Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk, in the reign of Henry VIII. on whoſe death it was granted to lady Anne of Cleves, fourth wife of that libidinous monarch, from whom ſhe was divorced July 10, 1540.

It was held in the crown in the reign of queen Elizabeth, and Richard Hovell, eſq. had a grant of it, with the courts, leets, fines, rents, &c. from James I. June 15, 1612.

The hundred court was anciently held at Flitchamburgh, then called Flieceham-burgh, at which place there is a remarkable hill or tumulus, ſurrounded

with a ditch in the form of a ſquare, where it is ſaid, the buſineſs of this hundred-court was done.

The cuſtom of holding courts on a hill, under a tree, or in a booth erected pro tempore, ſeems to have been firſt eſtabliſhed by the Saxons in England, and from them continued down to the laſt century. Juſtices in Eyre (juſticiarie itinerantes, or errantes) were inſtituted, according to Camden, in the reign of Henry II. whoſe buſineſs it was to decide ſuch cauſes as were too high for the county courts, for which purpoſe they were ſent by commiſſion into the different counties. Juſtices of the foreſt ſat to determine offences committed in the king's foreſt, and their court was called "The juſtice ſeat of the foreſt."

The hundred-court was afterwards held under an oak tree at Gaywood near Lynn, and till about the year 1710, was alſo held at a tree called Fitton-oak, in the manor of Fitton and pariſh of Wiggenhall St. German's, Thomas Howard, eighth duke of Norfolk, being then lord.

Freebridge hundred and half is ſituated at the weſtern extremity of the county of Norfolk; is bounded by Lynn channel and the waſh on the north-weſt, by part of Lincolnſhire and Cambridge on the weſt, by the hundreds of Clackcloſe and South Greenhoe on the ſouth, has Launditch and Gallow hundreds on the eaſt, and Smithdon on the north. The extent from Maſſingham on the eaſt to Wiſbech river on the weſt, may be about 22 miles; and the breadth, from Pentney-abbey to Darſingham, 11 ½.

The whole of this hundred and half conſtitutes the deanery of Lynn; is in the archdeaconry and dioceſe

dioceſe of Norwich, excepting Emneth, which belongs to the biſhoprick of Ely, and contains 49 pariſhes.

The number of freeholders in the hundred and half of Freebridge, that polled at the great conteſted election at Norwich, May 23, 1768, between ſir Armine Wodehouſe, bart. of Kimberley, and Thomas de Grey, eſq. of Merton, and ſir Edward Aſtley, bart. of Melton-Conſtable, and Wenman Coke, eſq. of Holkham, were as follows:

FREEBRIDGE LYNN.

	W.	G.	A.	C.
Anmer	4	4	0	0
Aſhwicken	1	1	0	0
Bilney, Weſt	1	1	0	0
Caſtle-Acre	2	3	8	11
Caſtle-Riſing	3	3	0	0
Congham	2	2	1	1
Darſingham	2	3	4	1
Flitcham	0	0	2	2
Gayton	2	3	4	5
Gaywood	0	0	3	3
Grimſton	7	9	8	6
Harpley	4	4	0	0
Hillington	3	3	1	1
Leziate	1	1	0	0
Lynn-Regis	69	76	151	141
Maſſingham, Gr. & Little	4	3	2	1
Middleton	1	1	2	2
Newton, Weſt	1	1	1	1
Pentney	2	2	2	2
Roydon	0	0	2	2
Runcton, North	3	3	3	3
Sandringham	1	2	0	1
Setchy	0	1	1	2

Walton,

	W.	G.	A.	C.
Walton, Eaſt -	0	1	2	1
Weſt-Acre - -	2	2	1	1
Winch, Eaſt and Weſt	1	2	3	4
Wooton, North & South	3	3	1	1
	119	134	202	192

FREEBRIDGE MARSHLAND.

Clenchwarton -	0	0	5	5
Emneth - -	15	16	3	2
Iſlington - -	0	0	5	5
Lynn, Weſt -	0	0	3	3
Terrington, St. Clement and St. John	4	3	15	16
Tilney All Saints and St. Lawrence -	0	1	9	8
Walpole St. Andrew and St. Peter -	9	9	3	3
Walſoken - -	5	5	2	2
Walton, Weſt -	4	4	0	0
Wiggenhall St. German, St. Mary, & St. Mary Magdalen -	3	3	10	10
	40	41	55	54
Total hundred and half	159	175	257	246

Seats, and noted Houſes, in FREEBRIDGE Hundred and Half.

Anmer, James Coldham, eſq.
Belmount, ſir James Johnſtone, bart.
Bilney lodge, Francis Dalton, eſq.
Emneth, or Hackbech hall, ſir Henry Peyton, bart.

Emneth

Emneth, Flewer Oxborough, eſq.
Hillington hall, ſir Martin Browne Folkes, bart.
Hillington, Mr. John Roſe.
Iſlington, Thomas Dixon, eſq.
Pentney, —— Lloyd, eſq.
Runcton, North, Robert Cony, eſq.
Sandringham, Mrs. Henley.
St. German's, Rev. John Towers Allen.
Walpole, Robert Cony, eſq.
Walpole, James Townſend, eſq. alderman of London.
Walpole Eaſt-Drove, Mr. Wright, of London.
Ditto Weſt-Drove, Mr. Falconar.
Weſt-Acre, Richard Hamond, eſq.

To deſcribe the ſituation and natural hiſtory of this, by much the largeſt diſtrict in the county, with that perſpicuity which is neceſſary in a work of this kind, we will confine our obſervations ſeparately to Freebridge Lynn hundred, and Freebridge Marſh-land half hundred.

Freebridge Lynn, or Freebridge with Lynn, is a tract of country, the features of which are variouſly marked with many gentle riſing eminences, a proportionate ſhare of champaign and fertile lands, and a leſs valuable part of heath and warren grounds. For a more particular eſtimation of the ſoil, culture, and price of labor in this part of the county, we refer our readers to the quotation from Mr. Arthur Young's " Farmers Tour," given in pages 103, 104, &c. of Smithdon hundred

Beſides the Ouſe, there are ſeveral rivulets of leſs note, which " trickle down the cheeks of this ruſtic vale," and influx themſelves with the ſea at or near Lynn. A ſmall brook riſes, and paſſes into the Lynn channel in Darſingham pariſh: By Flitcham, Hillington, Caſtle-Riſing, and Babingly, a conſiderable

rable ſtream runs into the ſame channel near Wolferton. This river is ſaid to have been navigable for large veſſels up to Caſtle-Riſing, and ſir H. Spelman calls it "a famous port." Another rivulet riſes in the village of Grimſtone, and meandering by Leziate, Bawſey, South Wooton, and Gaywood, paſſes into the Ouſe river cloſe to the town of Lynn. The river Nar, by ſome called the Setch, Sandringham, and Lynn flu, ſprings out of the bowels of Launditch hundred, and running by Caſtle-Acre, Pentney, Setch, &c. throws its contents into the Ouſe at Lynn;* as does alſo a tributary ſtream, which flows from the pariſh of Gaytonthorp, winding its courſe through Middleton, Mintlyn, &c.

This hundred, as well as Smithdon, is delightfully ſituated on the verge of the Lynn channel, forming, with the coaſt of Lincolnſhire, the appearance of an amphitheatre round the waſh, or bay, called METARIS ÆSTUARIUM. The country from the ſhore riſes gradually to the confines of the hundred, and the proſpect each way is very extenſive, and beautifully diverſified: churches, ſeats, woods, hills, and other pleaſing objects, ſucceed each other in the ratio of landſcape; and when contraſted with the ſhipping paſſing, in oppoſite courſes, and at various diſtances from the eye, muſt impreſs the beholder with an exalted idea of the divine wiſdom in the formation of nature, and of the inſtruction and power given us to improve.

"Go, wond'rous creature! mount where ſcience
"guides,
"Go, meaſure earth, weigh air, and ſtate the
"tides." Pope's Eſſay on Man.

The

* The courſe of the Nar, as well as of moſt other rivers in the county, are erroneouſly laid down in Corbridge's large map, of which, his leading this river into the Ouſe *above St. German's bridge* is an inſtance.

The navigation of Lynn channel is rendered extremely difficult and perilous, on account of the continual ſhifting of the ſands in the mouth of the harbour, which has proved fatal to many veſſels and mariners †. This evil, it is affirmed, has been occaſioned by the erection of Denver ſluice in 1651, on the river, 17 miles above Lynn, above which ſluice the tide formerly flowed about 20 miles: thus the flood-tide being checked in its lunar courſe, and the ebb-tide oppoſed by the remaining flow, without the aſſiſtance of the freſh waters in their natural courſe, the force of the tides are languid, and, of conſequence, the channel not being ſcoured by the regular influx and reflux of the ſea, the ſands become leſs durable, and the navigation leſs certain. The beſt charts and maritime ſurveys that have been made, are totally uſeleſs at preſent; the eaſtern channel, now choaked up, was formerly a ſafe and well-known paſſage, but at preſent veſſels are navigated through the weſtern. Notwithſtanding the difficulty and danger of this navigation, the imports to Lynn are immenſe; from which port, and the river Ouſe, the inland communication with the counties of Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Bedford and Northampton, conveys ſalt, coal, wine, fiſh, timber,

 ſtone,

† Great numbers of ſhips have been loſt in attempting to run into Lynn or Boſton; particularly in the year 1696, when near two hundred ſail of colliers and coaſters, being too far embayed to weather Winterton-neſs, ſtood away for Lynn Deeps; but, miſſing their way in the night, they were all driven on ſhore, daſhed to pieces, and near a thouſand perſons periſhed.

At Two o'clock on Sunday morning, Auguſt 31, 1777, the brig, George and Mary, Andrews, with coals, from Newcaſtle to Lynn, and lying at anchor in the channel, was drove on the ſand called Pinque-way. On a ſignal from the ſhip in the forenoon, the maſter and two men, who had been on ſhore all night, in attempting to return to the relief of thoſe on board, in croſſing the ſands on foot, were ſurrounded by the tide, and all three unhappily periſhed. The crew ſaved themſelves in the boat, but the veſſel went to pieces.

ſtone, and other neceſſaries; and the exports from Lynn are chiefly of ſuch commodities as are brought down from thoſe counties by water. Its foreign trade is very conſiderable, eſpecially with Holland, Norway, the Baltic, Spain, and Portugal, and is thought to import more wine than any other town in England, London excepted.

This hundred abounds with the ſame variety of ſoil and natural productions, for which the county, in toto, is ſo eminently noted: corn, cattle, wool, and rabbits, are the ſtaple. The higher grounds, with ſome few exceptions, are of a light ſand or gravel; the lower grounds and lands near the villages, fertile and well incloſed, and thoſe which are under the neceſſity of drainage, are of a flat ſilty rich paſture, extremely well adapted for fattening neat cattle and ſheep.

The air is healthy and pleaſant towards the inland parts, though frequently piercing; but the autumnal fogs, or damps, which evaporate from the fen-lands near the ſea-coaſt, are aguiſh, and otherwiſe unſalutary.

MARSH-LAND is ſo termed, in alluſion to its original and preſent ſtate. Whether Marſhland, and the fen-lands in Holland and the Iſle of Ely, were originally a part of the ocean, which the waters providentially left, or that this extenſive plain was at ſome time ſwallowed up by an inundation from the ſea, and afterwards drained, or otherwiſe cleared, admits of a doubt; more eſpecially as the moſt learned writers on the ſubject have differed in opinion. Sir William Dugdale, in his Hiſtory of Embanking, is of opinion, "that the Romans were the perſons who originally gained from the ſea this part of Norfolk, called Marſhland, where the Saxons were alſo invited

to

to ſettle, from the extraordinary fertility of the ſoil; and that they did ſo, is evident from the authentic ſurvey taken by the Norman conqueror, which ſheweth that the towns now in being there, were alſo extant in the days of king Edward the Confeſſor."

From the ſame venerable author, and others, we make the following extracts:

"This vaſt level was originally a firm dry land, not overflown by the ſea, or any ſtagnating freſh waters, which is plain from the great number of timber-trees that have been found in ſeveral parts of it. Now it is certain, that ſuch will not grow in watery mooriſh places; beſides, it is obſervable, that where they have been found, as in digging of channels and drains, their roots have been always obſerved to ſtand in the firm earth below the moor. Dugdale ſays, he himſelf ſaw great numbers of oak and fir-trees taken up in the fens near Thorney. Great numbers were alſo dug up at the cutting of that large channel called Downham Eau. In Marſh-land likewiſe, about a mile weſtward from Magdalen bridge, at the ſetting down of a ſluice there were found, 17 feet deep, ſeveral furze-buſhes, as alſo nut-trees preſſed flat down, with nuts found and firm lying by them, the buſhes and trees ſtanding in ſolid earth below the ſilt, which the ſea had brought up, and in time raiſed to that thickneſs. Great numbers of oak and fir-trees were found likewiſe at the making of the ditches and ſewers for draining the Iſle of Axholme, in Lincolnſhire.

"It is highly probable, that ſome great earthquake was the occaſion of the ſea's breaking in and overflowing this country with ſuch violence, as to tear up the woods by the roots; which inundation of the ſea brought in ſuch a prodigious quantity of

ſilt, as not only, for ſeveral miles towards the ſea, to cover the ground to an extraordinary depth, but even to the remoteſt parts near the high lands; as is evident from ſir Robert Cotton's finding, upon making a pool near Conington in Cambridgeſhire, the ſkeleton of a large ſea-fiſh, near 20 feet long, lying above ſix feet deep in ſilt. At what time this happened we cannot ſay." That there have been ſuch like changes we have undoubted teſtimony.

"In the time of the conſulſhip of Valentinian and Valens, there was an earthquake, which not only overthrew divers cities, but altered the very bounds of the ſea; which ſo flowed in ſome parts, that men might ſail in thoſe places where before they did walk; and forſook others, that they became dry land."

Ghent in Flanders, 900 years ago, was a haven-town; St. Omer's a ſea-port; as was alſo Romney, Limne, and Richborough in Kent; Eye in Suffolk; Shegneſs in Lincolnſhire, and Caſtle-Riſing in Norfolk.

"At the digging of a foundation for the Saſſe at Salter's-lode, there were found firſt 10 feet depth of ſilt, then three feet of firm moor, then blue gault, then three feet of moor, and at laſt whitiſh clay.

"At the ſetting down a ſluice a little below Magdalen fall, a ſtone eight feet long, and a cart-wheel 16 feet in the earth, were taken up by the workmen of Mr. Emerſon.

"At the ſetting down of Skirbeck ſluice near Boſton, there was found at 16 feet depth, covered with ſilt, a ſmith's forge, with all the tools thereto belonging,

longing, with horſe-ſhoes and other things made of iron."

To theſe obſervations of Dugdale we may add, "that near the river Welland, which runs through Spalding in Lincolnſhire, anno 1696, at the depth of about ten feet there were found jetties (as they are called) to keep up the old river's bank, and the head of a tunnel, that emptied the land-water into the old river; and at between 20 and 30 yards diſtance from the preſent river, there were dug up (about the like depth) ſeveral old boats; which things ſhew, that anciently the river was either much wider than it now is, or ran in another place, or both. On the other, viz. the north-weſt ſide of the river, and more upwards in the town, were dug up (at about the forementioned depth) the remains of old tan-vats or pits, a great quantity of ox-horns, and ſhoe-ſoles of a very ſtrange unuſual form, with ſharp-pointed toes turning up. Which things ſhew, that the ſurface of the country lay anciently much lower than now it does, and has been raiſed up by the ſea's throwing in its ſand in the maritime parts (now moſt inhabited) and by the moor or rotted ſedge in the fenny parts next the high country.

"At the laying of the preſent new ſluice or gote (as they call it) at the end of Hamond beck, at its fall into Boſton haven, taking up the foundation of the old gote, they met with the roots of trees, many of them iſſuing from their ſeveral boles or trunks ſpread in the ground, which when they had taken up (the roots and the earth they grew in) they met with a ſolid, gravelly and ſtony ſoil, of the high-country kind, (but black and diſcoloured by the change that had befallen it) upon which hard earth they laid the foundation of this new gote, where

theſe

theſe roots were dug up, which was certainly the ſurface of the old country."

We have been informed, that William Greaves, eſq. of Beaupre hall in Outwell, is in poſſeſſion of an ancient document, wherein mention is made of wood growing at a place called Hedgehirne wood in that pariſh, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, which place is now a deep fen.

All theſe forementioned inſtances clearly prove, "that (to make uſe of Dugdale's words) ſome great land-flood, many ages ſince, meeting with an obſtruction at the natural outfall to ſea, by reaſon of much ſilt, which after a long drought had choaked them up, did then ſpread itſelf over the face of the whole level; and that the waters till this general draining, ever ſince covering the ſame, have produced a moor now grown to ſo great a thickneſs."

The following tranſlation, by Dryden, of Ovid's deſcription of the changes in the terreſtrial ſyſtem is finely imagined, and à-propos to the preſent purpoſe.

The face of places and their forms decay;
And that is ſolid earth, that once was ſea:
Seas in their turn, retreating from the ſhore,
Make ſolid land, what ocean was before;
And far from ſtrands are ſhells of fiſhes found,
And ruſty anchors fix'd on mountain-ground:
And what were fields before, now waſh'd and worn
By falling floods from high, to valleys turn,
As crumbling ſtill deſcend to level lands;
And lakes and trembling bogs are barren ſands.

Freebridge Marſhland half hundred is bounded by the ſea on the north; by Croſs-keys Waſh and Wiſbech river, which divides Norfolk from Lincolnſhire and

and the Iſle of Ely in Cambridgeſhire, on the weſt; by the old Podike, dividing this with Clackcloſe hundred, on the ſouth; and by the river Ouſe, on the eaſt, which is the boundary, (Wiggenhall St. German's and St. Peter excepted) with part of Clackcloſe and Freebridge Lynn hundreds. The country has a gentle and almoſt imperceptible aſcent from its limits, as above deſcribed, to its centre; and many of its lofty churches command extenſive proſpects into Norfolk, Lincoln and Cambridge ſhires.

Marſhland comprehends what is properly called "the ſeven towns of Marſhland," viz. Emneth, Terrington, Tilney, Walpole, Walſoken, Walton, and Wiggenhall. Theſe townſhips enjoy a mutual right of inter-common on the Smeth and its appurtenances, which are ſaid to contain about 3000 acres of ſummer paſture: a piece of land ſo fruitful (as was reported by a courtier to James I. at his firſt coming to the crown of England) "that if over night a wand or rod was laid on the ground, by the morning it would be covered with graſs of that night's growth, ſo as not to be diſcerned." To which that king is ſaid, in a jocoſe manner, to reply, "that he knew ſome grounds in Scotland, where if an horſe was put in over night, they could not ſee him, or diſcern him in the morning." Of this plain, or ſmeth, there is a tradition, which the common people retain, that in old time the inhabitants of theſe towns had a conteſt with the lords of the manors, about the bounds and limits of it; when one Hickifric, a perſon of great ſtature and courage, aſſiſting the ſaid inhabitants in their rights of common, took an axel-tree from a cart wheel, inſtead of a ſword, and the wheel for a ſhield, or buckler, and thus armed, ſoon repelled the invaders; and for proof of this notable exploit, they to this day ſhew (ſays ſir William Dugdale) a large grave-ſtone, near the eaſt end of the chancel, in

in Tilney church-yard, whereon the form of a croſs is ſo cut or carved, as that the upper part thereof (wherewith the carver hath adorned it) being circular, they will therefore needs have it to be the grave-ſtone of Hickifric, and to be as a memorial of his gallantry.* But this ſtory, like that of "Sir Thomas Erpingham and the Monk," in Mr. Blomefield's Eſſay, is better calculated for the reader of a "Penny Hiſtory" than for the peruſal of a leſs credulous or ſuperſtitious mind.

The pariſhes of Clenchwarton, Weſt and North Lynn, though lying in Marſhland, are excluded from any uſe of paſturage, &c. on the Smeth common.

Camden ſays, "Marſhland is, as it were, cut to pieces, and it is imagined there are an hundred bridges over the dikes which drain the lands." The roads, which are numerous, are very irregular and diſagreeable to travel on. The crops are generally very good, and well got in; and the price of labor in harveſt-time is from 2s. 6d. to 5s. a day, or 7s. 6d. per acre reaping.

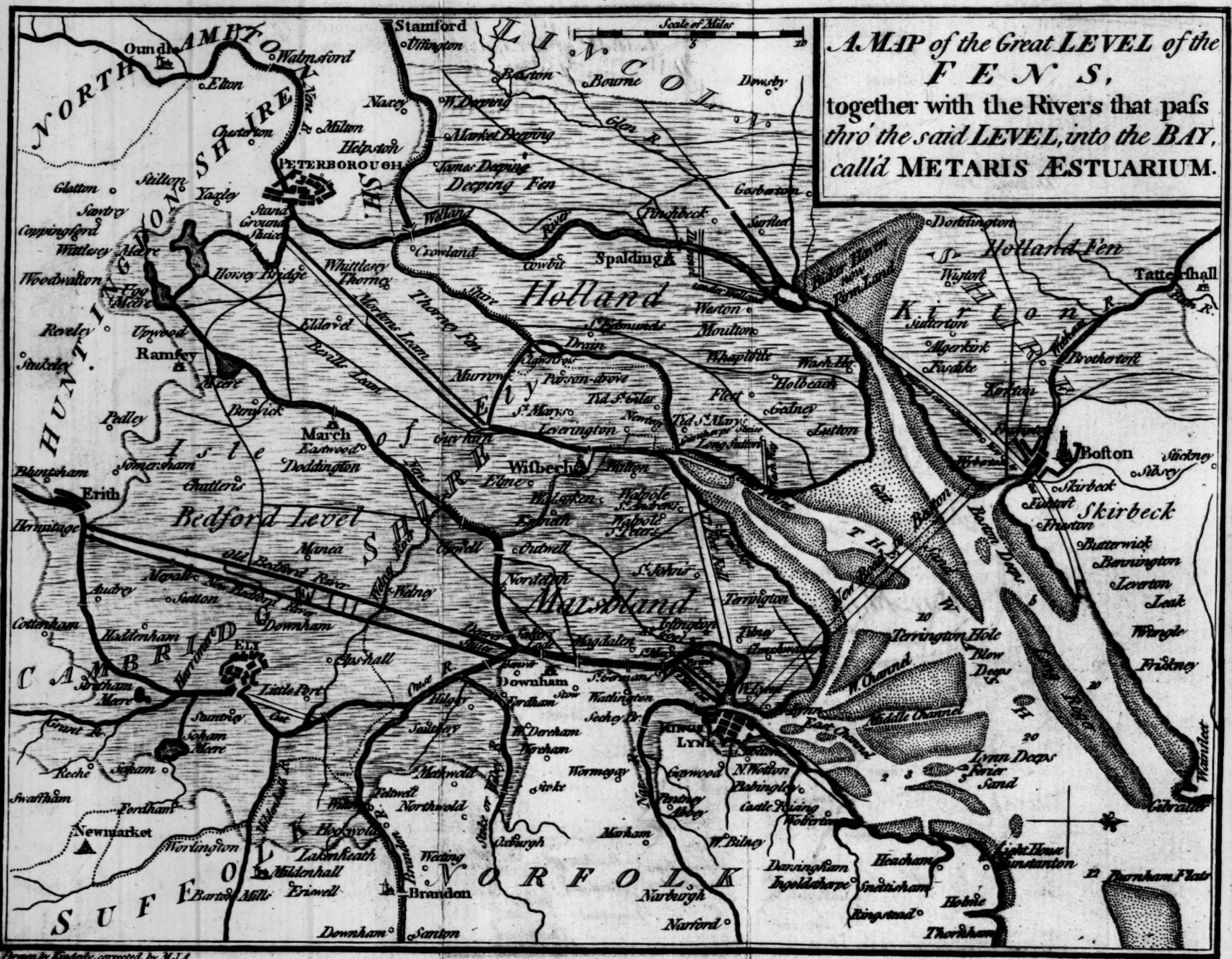
The contaminated air here is not ſo prejudicial to the conſtitution of aſthmatic people as it is in the lower fens, but the ague prevails at every period of life.

Vaſt improvements have been made towards the ſea-coaſt of Marſhland, by embanking, eſpecially in the pariſhes of Terrington and Clenchwarton, where the late captain Bentinck, at a conſiderable expence, took in 900 acres of ſalt-marſh; now rendered arable by the perſeverance and public ſpirit of that worthy gentleman. A like encloſure is going to be made

* Parkin.

Fens, The. – General Maps
C

To the Hon.ble Corporation of the Bedford Level.



made in Walpole, by alderman Townſend, of London, and others concerned.

The old ſea-bank (in many places called Roman) is yet entire, and the towns of Walpole, Walton and Walſoken, ſituated on it, take their names from this barrier. Each town in Marſhland were mutually obliged to ſupport a proportion of the great banks raiſed to defend their own property, and not (as is the caſe in the Bedford Level) veſted in the power of a body corporate, who may be ignorant of the value and means of that ſupport. Commiſſioners have been appointed in different reigns, "to ſee that the banks in Marſhland were in repair," but the intereſt of each landholder being to preſerve his property from the inundations of the tide, effected more than even a royal mandate. In 1277, we find each town in Marſhland maintained about ſix furlongs of the Podike.

The principal out-fall of the ſeveral cuts which drain the fen-lands of the great Bedford Level being at Lynn, through the preſent channel of the river Ouſe, which empties itſelf into the bay called METARIS ÆSTUARIUM, the preſervation of this out-fall and navigation has been the primary object of the commiſſioners of the "Corporation of the Bedford Level."

To trace minutely the origin and progreſs of the many improvements which have been made or attempted, and the ſucceſs or failure of each effort towards ſo deſirable a purpoſe, would lead us into a labyrinth of opinions, in which men of ſuperior judgment and experience have loſt themſelves: We will, therefore, reſt our information on the ſhoulders of others, and give, in as brief and explicit a manner as we are able, a general ſeries of occurrences, collected

from the various reports, ſchemes, ſurveys, &c. that have been publiſhed, without intruding a ſingle hint, or ſuggeſtion of our own; well knowing, that thoſe opinions (which are as various as the reports, &c.) have contributed in ſome degree to diſturb the counſels, and impede the operation of every meaſure propoſed or adapted by the Hon. Board of the Corporation of the adventurers of Bedford Level.

The river Ouſe, formerly called Uſa, or Iſa, ſprings from a gentle riſing ground near Brackley, 13 miles above Northampton, in the ſame county, and paſſing by Buckingham, Stony-Stratford, Newport-Pagnel, Bedford, St. Neot's, Huntingdon, St. Ives, Erith, Ely, Littleport, Downham, and St. German's, diſcharges itſelf (after a courſe, according to Badeſlade, of 160 miles) into the ſea below Lynn-Regis. Beſides a number of brooks and ſmaller rivers upwards, it receives the Grant, or Cam, above Ely; Mildenhall river a little below Littleport; the Little Ouſe, or Brandon river, above Southery; the Wiſſey, or Stoke river, at Denver ſluice; the Nene at Salter's Lode, and the Nar at Lynn, where the Great Ouſe is about 300 yards wide.

"The rivers Ouſe, Grant and Mildenhall, in ancient times had their united courſe by Littleport, Wellney and Well, through Wiſbech outfall to ſea; and then the waters of Brand and Stoke rivers only ran together by Salter's Lode, Magdalen and German's, through Lynn haven to ſea.

"When Wiſbech outfall decayed, (deſtroyed) ſaith Mr. Richard Atkins, chiefly by incroachments upon the river, and buildings on its banks, which made it too narrow to vent the high country waters, and the fens in conſequence thereof became hurtfully ſurrounded, the commiſſioners of ſewers cut a canal from

from Littleport to Brand river, to give the waters of Ouſe, Grant and Mildenhall rivers, the ſame courſe with Brand and Stoke, through Lynn outfall to ſea; the deſcent of all the fens being that way.

"This abundance of freſh waters having now this courſe, and this only, gave the ſea a more ſpacious inlet; the one as it were preparing the way, and the other maintaining it with great increaſe, ſaith Mr. Atkins; and ſir Clement Edmonds ſaith, "the freſh waters, with the aſſiſtance of the tides from ſea, wore the river wider and deeper."

"But it was not poſſible for the tides and freſhes in their operations, to wear and grind in a few ages this river and outfall deep and wide enough to receive and convey through it to ſea, the waters of ſo many rivers that had their courſe given this way, in default of their former outfall; therefore thoſe waters, for want of a ſufficient vent, conſtantly overflowed the fens in winter time, and kept them drowned moſt part of the ſummer, notwithſtanding the many works made within the bounds of the fens towards draining, before the undertaking for a general draining commenced.

"And as the river Ouſe, from the bounds of the fens to ſeaward, has been hindered from growing deeper by ſluices, and from growing wider by bridges, the fens ſtill continue hurtfully ſurrounded; and muſt continue ſo, until the river be enlarged.

"The rivers Grant, Brand, Mildenhall, Stoke, New Bedford, and Well-Creek, all their widths added together, is near 300 feet. The river Ouſe below Salter's Lode, which ſhould be a receptacle for the waters of all theſe rivers, and ſhould convey them thro' its banks to ſea, is but 120 feet wide, (but 105 at

the bridges) therefore cannot vent above one-third of the high country waters that deſcend theſe rivers, excluſive of the downfall waters of the great level of the fens. This truth is confirmed by woeful experience; elſe, why when the river Ouſe was ſo deep that low water mark was 10 feet under ſoil of the fens from Salter's Lode to ſeaward, (as it was before Denver ſluices were built) and after works had been made by the lord Popham, &c. to lead the fen waters into the Ouſe at Salter's Lode; why, I aſk, if the Ouſe had been wide enough to convey thoſe waters to ſea, was the fens then ſo hurtfully ſurrounded as to occaſion the general undertaking to drain them? —Why after the New Bedford river was made, and Denver ſluices built, did the floods that deſcended that new river, riſe high againſt the ſluice doors, and keep them ſhut weeks together, and alſo riſe high between the New Bedford banks, ſometimes breaking them and overflowing the fens; but that the Ouſe was not wide enough to receive and convey the floods to ſea that came down the New Bedford river only, excluſive of the waters of the rivers Grant, Mildenhall, Brand and Stoke, which were all pent into the ſouth level by Denver ſluices, until the New Bedford floods were run off to ſea, or had broke their banks, and dilated themſelves over the face of the fens?— Why was St. John's Eau and Tong's Drain of little or no uſe to draining, but becauſe the river Ouſe, below the mouths of thoſe drains, could convey no more water to ſea than it could before thoſe drains were made?—And why doth the floods of the New Bedford river revert into the ſouth level (now Denver ſluices are deſtroyed and away) to the total drowning of that country, but that the river Ouſe (though the natural bottom is 14 feet deep below the ſoil of the ſouth level) is not wide enough to convey to ſea the Bedford river floods only?

And

"And that it is impoſſible for the fens to be drained through ſo narrow a river as is the Ouſe, (even tho' by natural means, or artificial ſcours, its ancient depth be regained) will farther appear, if we compare the Ouſe with our other great rivers that have their outfall into as great ſeas.

"And as the river Ouſe is inferior to no one river in the extent of its inland navigation, it is ſuperior to any one in reſpect of draining; it being the ſewer and outfall of the great level of the fens, called Bedford Level, of near 400,000 acres; of the province of Marſhland, of 40,000 acres; of the hundred of Clackcloſe, and parts adjacent, of 10,000 acres of land.

"I ſhould have ſaid the river Ouſe was thus famous for navigation and draining: indeed it is far, very far from being ſo now, having for ſeveral years laſt paſt gradually decayed, inſomuch that it is rendered incapable of draining any of the aforeſaid lands, and will be loſt to navigation in a very ſhort time.*

When the Little Ouſe, or Brandon river, Stoke and the Nar, were the only waters that had their influx with the ſea at Lynn, the channel of that haven was not above ſix poles broad, and the river from Denver downwards, then called Wiggenhall Eau, proportionately narrow. Formerly the Great Ouſe, Grant and Mildenhall rivers, meeting at Littleport, had their courſe by Welney to Upwell, where they were joined by the Nene; and running by Outwell, Emneth, and Elme, to Wiſbech, had their outfall into the waſh between Walpole and Sutton: but the outfall by Wiſbech being decayed, or deſtroyed, as

Badeſlade

* Badeſlade.

Badeſlade will have it, the Ouſe and Nene changed their courſe at Outwell, and running by Mullicourt and Nordelf, through Well-creek, into Stoke and Brandon rivers at Salter's Lode, with them formed what is now called the Great Ouſe, to Lynn.

On account of the great encreaſe of waters, and natural apprehenſions of the people of Marſhland for the country's ſafety, a cut of three miles and a half from the Great Ouſe at Littleport to the Little Ouſe near Littleport chain was made, by which the courſe of the Grant and Ouſe was turned into the Nene at Salter's Lode. The ancient ſtate of the rivers is confirmed by various authorities. The outfall by Wiſbech, or Ouſbeach, was ſometimes called the Well river, as appears by a regiſter at Peterborough; Wiſbech caſtle founded ſuper flumen illud famoſum, quod Well-ſtreame appelatur, &c. And ſome writers ſay that king John, in paſſing the waters of Well, 1216, loſt moſt of his baggage and treaſure.

In 1292, a commiſſion from the king, bearing date June 19, was procured for making a proper enquiry into the waters of Well, when it was ordained by the conſent of the country, that three dams ſhould be made in Upwell and Outwell, to turn the Nene into its ancient and due courſe, to its outfall below Wiſbech. The inhabitants of Marſhland made a ſtop of the ſaid waters at Little Lode in Upwell.

The biſhop of Litchfield and Coventry, treaſurer to Edward I. cauſed a dam to be made at Outwell: but a preſentment being exhibited to the juſtices itinerant, then ſitting at Northampton, the 5th of Edward III. May 12, 1332, ſetting forth how prejudicial this ſtop to the navigation between Peterborough

and

and Lynn was to trade, &c. and that by this hindrance great part of the low lands of the middle level would be drowned, the high ſheriff of Norfolk, and others concerned, were empowered to pull the ſaid dam down.

Thus the weight and rapid force of the waters did wear and grind the river Ouſe and Lynn haven to ſuch a width, that the pariſhes of Clenchwarton, Tilney, Iſlington, and Wiggenhall in Marſhland, Holm, Watlington, and South Runcton in Clackcloſe, Setchy and Weſt Winch in Freebridge Lynn, preferred a petition to the king, ſhewing, "That whereas the river going to Lynn uſed to run between banks diſtant 12 perches aſunder, but was now a full mile in breadth, whereby a great part of thoſe pariſhes were overflown, they humbly pray that the ſaid river might be confined to its ancient width." But the inhabitants of Lynn, and a part of Marſhland, promoted a bill in the parliament of 1342, in oppoſition to the abovementioned petition, which they carried.

In 1378, the aforeſaid pariſhes preſented a petition to Richard II. imploring the ſame, in effect, as the former to his predeceſſor; whereupon a commiſſion of view was granted, who reported, that the river at South Lynn, then 40 perches, or 640 feet, ought to be reduced to its original width, ſix perches; and the Setch or Nar, from five perches to one: but it does not appear that any advantage was taken of this report; for petitions of the ſame requeſt were preſented to Elizabeth in 1596, and to James I. 1618, in the latter of which the inhabitants of Marſhland are ſaid to have ſuffered a loſs of 30,000l. by an inundation of the ſea in 1613. This prayer was alſo referred to a commiſſion of view, and in like manner

ner neglected, although ſir Clement Edmonds certified to the board of commiſſioners, Auguſt 12, 1618, "that the haven of Lynn was, through the violence of the tides, and great fall of freſhes, grown much wider than it had been, to the endangering of Marſhland." Mr. Richard Atkins, of Outwell, who was an eminent commiſſioner of ſewers, and flouriſhed the beginning of James I. gave his opinion to the ſame effect.

About this time ſome improvements were made in carrying off the waters from Outwell through Rightforth Lode into the Ouſe at Stowe bridge, and from Elme, croſs Marſhland, into the ſame river at Knight's Gool, an. 1640. Sir William Dugdale ſaith, "that the Smeth common, which uſed to feed 30,000 ſheep, now lies under water, on account of the outfall at Knight's Gool being filted up with ſand lodged againſt the ſluice doors.

Dugdale obſerves likewiſe, "that anno 1662, at Wiggenhall St. Mary's, at a place called Wathden, there were then to be ſeen ſome remains of a church, as alſo bones that appeared at a low ebb upon the river ſide, about eight feet below the preſent ſurface of the earth. The like alſo was obſervable at Wiggenhall St. German's, the floor of the church there being at leaſt ſeven feet lower than the high water mark of the river Ouſe." He obſerves, "that the riſing of the tides to ſo great a height was what occaſioned the channel of Lynn to widen ſo much, that the inhabitants were forced to remove one of their churches to a further diſtance from it, as is yet to be ſeen in that part of it now called Old Lynn, where the bones of the dead, which were buried in St. Edmund's church-yard, are now (or however were but very lately) daily waſhed at every tide, by reaſon that part of the ſame church-yard is conſumed away with the violence of that current."

Upon

Upon a view, the haven at Lynn was thought the moſt eligible outfall for the Nene, Grant, &c. and, were it not for winter waters, would utterly decay. And Mr. Goddard, who was recorder of Lynn, ſaith, "That though the channel to ſeaward below the haven was near half a mile wide at low water, yet it was of a depth ſufficient for a ſhip of twelve feet water to be brought up in any one tide without any wind."

The ſame gentleman obſerves, "that the tides flowed up into the Ouſe about — 48 miles.

Into the Grant	5	which is from Lynn	48
Mildenhall	8		42
Brandon	10		36
Stoke	6		24
Nene	7		23

The tide putting up ſo far into all theſe rivers, and filling them twice in every twenty-four hours, they were not only competently ſupplied with water from ſea in the drieſt ſeaſons to ſerve for the inland navigation, which by means of ſo many branches is the moſt extenſive in England; ſo that commerce and trade was conſtantly maintained up the river Nene to Well, March, and Peterborough, above fifty miles from Lynn, into Northampton, Rutland, Lincoln, Nottingham, and Leiceſterſhire, with veſſels of fifteen tons, which eaſily paſſed loaden in the drieſt ſeaſons.

And up the river Ouſe they could ſail with forty tons freight thirty-ſix miles at leaſt from Lynn at ordinary neip tides; and great and conſtant commerce was held to Cambridge, Bedford, &c. and between Cambridge and St. Ives, Huntingdon, St. Neot's,

Bedford, and places adjacent, with a burden of fifteen ton, which is ninety miles from Lynn by water*.

Sir Cornelius Vermuyden obſerves, that " the outfall of Lynn hath ſufficient water to keep open his channel, and although in ſummer the ſands in Lynn haven overcome the ebbs ſomewhat, yet they do not lie long, but the firſt land-waters, or next ſpring tides, carry them away again."

How far the imbanking of ſalt marſhes may affect a navigation, Mr. Badeſlade makes the following remarks. " Since a conſiderable number of acres of ſalt-marſh have been imbanked and taken in, adjoining to the port of Wells, and ſeveral creeks have had banks run croſs them, which hinders the neip-tide from putting up into thoſe creeks, as they were wont to do, and alſo the ſpring-tides from overflowing the quantity of marſh they uſed before to cover, the ſaid harbour of Wells, its channel and pool, have very ſenſibly decayed, as have done all channels that have been any ways deprived of their ancient ſtock of back-waters. Thus Mr. Atkins writes, " Spalding of old time was beſt of three outfalls, " now the worſt; loſt by winning certain ſeveral " marſhes to the ſeaward."

" Thus the honourable Corporation of Adventurers ſet forth to the parliament in their reaſons, why Sutton Marſh below Wiſbech ſhould not be inned, A. D. 1719. " That it is found by experience, that " the imbanking the ſalt-marſhes, or gaining land " from the ſea, has been the principal cauſe of the " channel's being choaked up, and have juſt reaſon " to be apprehenſive, that the imbanking any more " will

* Badeſlade.

" will entirely deſtroy that outfall to ſea, &c."—Thus alſo the petition of Rye in Suſſex to the parliament, 1701, ſets forth, " That of late years ſeveral perſons have inned ſeveral acres of land which " belong to the ſaid harbour, and have built flood-" gates to ſtop the flow and reflow of the tide up " the river Rother, and thereby the ſaid harbour " grows worſe every year."

Of this opinion is ſir Cornelius Vermuyden; he ſaith, " The Ouſe, from Littleport to Lynn, keeps his depth by reaſon of the back-waters."

That Marſhland, and the great level of the fens were originally good lands, we have already given ſome proofs, and ſhall only add a few other authorities before we proceed on the buſineſs of the Adventurers.

" The fens that are now, were ſometimes of the nature of land meadows, (ſays Mr. Atkins) fruitful, healthful, and very gainful to the inhabitants, and yielded much relief to the high countries in time of great drought. The truth of this is diſputed by ſome people, but they ſeem plainly to have been ſo; for Peterborough of old was called Medehamſted of the meadows there, and not Fenhamſted of the fens that now are; and yet unto it did moſt of the fens belong. And Ely fen, or Peterborough great fen was foreſt, whoſe keeper had in it, in the new marſhes, now called Marſh Fen, an incloſure for keeping of ſheep, and for mowing of hay; and in Wryde Croft, a manſion-houſe and a large dairy-houſe."

Leland and other ancient writers are laviſh in the praiſe of this once fruitful country.

In a law of ſewers made the 29th of September, 1596, called Neatmoor Law, the commiſſioners, after enumerating the cauſes why "theſe fenny grounds "did lie long ſurrounded, and ſo became unprofit-"able, which in former time have been dry and "profitable, it is ſaid—And ſo they may be hereaf-"ter, if due proviſion be made."

And ſir Henry Hobart, attorney-general to king James I. ſays, "That the grounds now ſought to be "drained, are ſuch as naturally and anciently were "dry grounds."

"How this country, ſays Mr. Badeſlade, which though lying flat and low, (yet was not originally annoyed with any conſtant ſtop of the freſh waters, which might by overflowing and ſtagnation make it fenny) came to be ſurrounded in the manner it was before the general undertaking to drain it commenced, I ſhall here endeavour to manifeſt.

"It may look like a paradox to ſay that it was occaſioned by imbanking: but certainly it was, and by the not putting the laws of ſewers afterwards in execution; by neglect whereof the principal drains became uſeleſs to convey the downfall water into the rivers, and thereby the outfall of thoſe rivers themſelves were by degrees loſt.

"The plainer to make this appear, I ſhall employ this ſection in tracing the ſtate of the level from diſtant times e'er yet it was imbanked, to the time of the general undertaking for the draining thereof.

"I have proved that the greateſt part of the level was anciently firm and dry ground; but as the courſe of the rivers ſhew that this vaſt plain has a hanging

hanging level and gradual deſcent to the ocean, the ſpring-tides did overflow the loweſt part of it, ſo as that it was in nature ſalt-marſh, till they were imbanked and defended from the ſea by a colony of the Romans that had reſidence in theſe parts.

"Theſe colonies were ſo excellently diſciplined, that for avoiding the miſchief which idleneſs produceth, they were always exerciſed in ſome neceſſary employment, or public work.

"Theſe active and induſtrious Romans, who made uſe of all art and ſkill to the advancement of their profit, obſerving theſe ſalt-marſhes to be very fertile, and to lie above the reach of the ordinary tides, beſtowed the pains and coſt (ſays Dugdale) to raiſe a ſtrong bank of earth on that ſide the level towards the ocean, to defend it from the overflowing of the ſpring tides; by which means, the countries of Holland and Marſhland were won and gained."

"Succeeding ages following the example of the Romans; more and more of this level hath been continually taken in and imbanked, and by thoſe banks the high-country waters were kept from the ſea, whither the very deſcent of the country would carry them, if theſe banks were not: which our good commiſſioners of ſewers of old time foreſeeing, did enjoin the makers of thoſe banks to make, keep and maintain gooles or helps, both for the ſafety of their banks, and for the better conveyance of the waters."

And the like effects theſe banks have wrought upon the fens now (meadows once): "The banks to be made, may in time to come work upon the upland meadows (ſays Mr. Atkins). This experience

hath ſhewn, for before the Old Podike was made to ſend off the land waters (7th of Henry III. anno 1223) from Marſhland, the lower part of that province was no better than marſh, For the banks that defended Marſhland from the ſea, hindered the downfall from getting to ſea; ſo that the waters deſcending, the higher ſtagnated in the lower grounds for want of gooles ahd helps to paſs it away to the outfall."

Sir William Dugdale ſaith, "By an ancient pleading it appeareth, that before the 27th of Henry I. (ſix hundred years ago) there was neither habitation nor ground that yielded profit within that part of Wiggenhall, from Buſtard's Dole unto the ſouth ſide of the ſaid town, except the monaſtery of Crabbhouſe, with ſome lands belonging thereto, all being then waſte, and in the nature of fen." And we find that when the old Podike was much torn and broken by the weight of the land waters on the ſouth ſide againſt it, that great part of Marſhland was overflowed by the freſh waters: and becauſe the ſaid Podike was judged by the commiſſioners of ſewers, 1 Hen. VI. incapable of being mended, on account of the weakneſs of the ground whereon it ſtood: therefore A. D. 1422, the New Podike was ordained and decreed to be made; and accordingly it was made, and extended itſelf from Salter's Lode to Wellſhoal.

Hereupon the land ſouth of this new bank became overflowed: for we find, April 2, anno 1423, "That Thomas duke of Exeter, &c. (becauſe ſeveral lands in Upwell and Outwell were ſurrounded, cauſed by the new Podike) gave leave to Henry Wells, archdeacon of Lincoln, and others, to convey the waters by tunnels under the ſaid Podike through

Rightforth

Rightforth Lode into Wiggenhall Eau, which carries itſelf towards Biſhop's Lynn."

'Tis certain that the river, by theſe encroachments, was made ſo narrow, that the land-floods when they came down in the winter ſeaſon could not find paſſage to ſea; ſo that for want of room to get away, they were enforced to overflow the level during that ſeaſon; and in very wet years, continued to ſurround it all the ſummer, becauſe all the ſewers, drains, petty drains, &c. (ſaith Mr. Atkins) within the fens, were ruinous and utterly decayed, which were the principal conductors and guiders of the waters into the main ſtreams; which have grown up for want of diking and ſcouring, and the waters have been obſtructed by placing of wears, ſtamps, and divers ſuch impediments, to the general hurt of the whole country, not only in theſe petty drains, but even in the very main ſtreams themſelves.*

And Atkins ſaith, ſpeaking of Wiſbech, "This pitiful outfall proceedeth of neglect, in not ſcouring and dyking the river, nor preſerving and maintaining the petty ſewers and drains which anciently fed the ſame, by enforcing the waters thereof, and keeping them in their proper courſe; whereby the ſea finding but little reſiſtance (nor ſtrength of a following head of water to ſcour the channel continually) ſilted up the river and outfall; ſo that though of ancient times ſhips of great burden reſorted to Wiſbech, yet for theſe cauſes the outfall ſo ſilted up, that as long ſince as king John's time, above five hundred years ago, the channel was ſo ſhallow, that people could paſs over at low water.

* Badeſlade;

This outfall thus decayed, the waters of Great Ouſe, which paſſed through the Iſle of Ely in two branches, the firſt branch, called the Weſt-water, from Erith by Chatteris to Benwick, where it met a part of Nene, deſcending under Horſey bridge, thro' the Meres, to Benwick aforeſaid, and they concurred in one courſe to March bridge, and ſo to Upwell; where they met with the other branch of Ouſe, which fell from Erith to Harrimere; and after receiving the river Grant, (from Cambridge) paſſed united to Ely, thence to Littleport-chair, and ſo by Wellney to Upwell aforeſaid, and from thence both branches ran united to the north ſea, by Wiſbech, while that outfall was good and perfect. But that decaying, and Wiſbech river being neither deep enough nor wide enough to receive and paſs away theſe great bodies of water; the Weſt-water, or firſt branch of Ouſe, with Nene united, which fell down partly by March to Well, not finding paſſage thro' Well to Wiſbech, did at Shrewſneſs and Well moſt part thereof turn towards Littleport and Salter's-lode, overflowing in its way all the low grounds in the Iſle of Ely."

Then ſaith Mr. Atkin, "As it ſeemeth there was not any river between Littleport-chair and Rebeck, but all the lodes, lakes and dykes, as St. Edmund's-lode, Gnat-lode, Dockey-lode, &c. took their naturall fall into a great mere near Well, called the Wyde; and from the Wyde, by divers tracts, as Webwinch-lake, Aldy-lode, Small-lode, Cheſſelbeech, Waxbech-lode, &c. into the river at Upwell, and thence with the branch of Ouſe from Littleport to the north ſea by Wiſbech."

This was the courſe of thoſe waters while the outfall was good; but that decaying, and in conſequence

quence thereof great part of the level being overflowed in times of floods, and kept for the moſt part ſurrounded; "Means were found, ſaith Mr. Atkins, to let Great Ouſe fall from Littleport-chair to Rebeck, (by a lode, which at firſt ſeemed to be called Hemmings Eau) into Ouſe Parva, which has its courſe to Salter's lode, and thence to the north ſea by Lynn, whoſe haven and channel before that time was not above ſix poles wide." But after Wiſbech outfall decayed, Lynn haven was worn wider by degrees, by the action of the tides, and force of the freſh waters deſcending that way; for beſides the waters of Old Ouſe having this new paſſage given them to ſea, the river of Nene led its waters alſo this way, i. e. from Peterborough to Ramſey, thence to a decayed river in March, called Great Croſs, thence to a decayed ſewer called New Leame, thence to a certain place in Upwell, called Shrewſneſt Point; and there the ſaid river divided itſelf into two branches, whereof the one returned ſouth-eaſt, and was called the South Branch, unto a certain old decayed ſewer in Welney hamlet, called Maid-lode, and from thence to another old decayed ſewer between Welney and Littleport, called Newdike, and from thence into Ouſe at Littleport-chair, after a circuit of fifty-four miles.

The north branch deſcended from the ſaid place called Shrewſneſt Point, unto a certain place in Outwell, called Outwell-ſhoal, and from thence ſouthward unto a certain place called Nordelph, and from thence eaſtward unto Salter's lode, and there into the great river, and by that courſe to ſea thro' Lynn haven.

Thus the waters of Nene were forced to take in a manner their full flow and whole courſe contrary to

to their wonted avoidance, at Wiſbech, by reaſon of the decay of the ſewers, called the Great Croſs, the New Leame, &c. The decay of which ſaid ſeveral ſewers, with the rivers, lodes and drains from them, extending unto the ſaid town of Wiſbech; and in conſequence thereof, the decay of Wiſbech outfall itſelf, was the cauſe of drowning and deſtroying the adjacent country: and thus the waters of Nene, in default of their proper outfall deſcending to ſea by Lynn, Wiſbech channel, and ſo low as the Croſs-Keys, thereby utterly decayed.*

From the reign of Edward I. to James I. many inefficacious attempts were made to remove thoſe prejudices the country laboured under, either on account of the imbankments towards ſea, altering the natural courſe of rivers, or neglect of ſewers, &c.

At this time, July 15, 1605, ſir John Popham, lord chief juſtice of England to king James I. much affecting the good of this country, procured an act of parliament for making new drains, &c. which was intitled,

An Act for the Draining of certain Fens and low Grounds within the Iſle of Ely, *and Counties adjoining, ſubject to hurt by ſurrounding*: and ran thus,

" Whereas it is affirmed by ſkilful and expert men, &c. that the fens and low grounds, lying and being within the iſle of Ely, &c. may be drained, if ſufficient authority be given: And whereas ſir John Popham, and others, have undertaken to do their beſt endeavours, &c. Be it therefore enacted, &c. that the ſaid ſir John Popham, &c. ſhall have power, &c. to make works for that purpoſe, &c.

" And

* Badeſlade.

" And to cauſe to be made a ſufficient conveyance for Ouſe, either by enlarging the channel, or by imbanking in ſuch places, or doing any thing elſe, by them thought needful, from Erith bridge to Salter's lode; ſo as they debar not the towns and commons of convenient paſſage and acceſs to the river over the banks, in convenient places, for neceſſary occaſions.

" And to make two new rivers, to begin about Erith bridge, where ſix commiſſioners, whereof four inhabiting within the iſle ſhall think fit, to fall into Ouſe about Denver hithe; with *ſufficient banks* and indikes, as well of old Ouſe, as of the new rivers, to be laid ſo far off one from the other, as ſix commiſſioners, whereof four of the iſle of Ely, &c. or of the counties of Cambridge or Norfolk reſpectively, where the work ſhall be done, ſhall think fit; with *ſufficient ſluices at the upper end of the new rivers and Weſt-water, in ſuch ſort as the navigation in* Old Ouſe *and* Grant *be not impaired.*

" *And to imbank in all places needful,* Grant, Mildenhall, Brandon, *and* Stoke *rivers,* viz.

" Grant, from or near a corner below Clay hithe ferry.

" Mildenhall and Brandon rivers, from their entrance into the fens, or from ſome more convenient place.

" Stoke river, from Stoke cauſey, unto the places where they fall into Ouſe. And to do any thing elſe needful for the preſervation of the ſaid banks; and to amend and enlarge the ſaid rivers where need is: And the banks and indikes to be laid ſo far aſunder

as

as ſix commiſſioners of ſewers ſhall think fit, (four of the iſle of Ely, or reſpectively where the work is done) with convenient acceſs to the rivers, as aforeſaid.

" And to make ſufficient land-eaus and banks in all places needful, ſo near the ſkirts of the upland, as ſix commiſſioners ſhall think fit, to convey the waters to the rivers.

" And if any perſon ſhall maliciouſly cut, break up or caſt down any bank made, or hereafter to be made, for this draining, and ſhall not within fourteen days after publication made in the pariſh church where the offence ſhall be done, ſurrender himſelf to a juſtice of the peace, and in fourteen days after pay the fine the ſaid juſtice ſhall think ſufficient for the amending the damage, and double damages to the party indamaged, that then the offenders ſhall be adjudged felons.

" And that the undertakers, their heirs and aſſigns, for draining, and preſerving, and perpetual maintenance of the ſame draining, ſhall have for ever in ſeveralty one hundred and twelve thouſand acres ſtatute meaſure, to be taken and proportioned out of every particular manor, or out of any other fen or low grounds within the limits, &c. by commiſſioners thereto aſſigned, according to their diſcretion, and to diſtinguiſh what number of acres ſhall be ſo taken out.

" And that the undertakers ſhall have all the ſoil, waters and fiſhings of all the new rivers.

" And the undertakers to take no profits of the grounds, but as they ſhall finiſh the draining of every manor,

manor, ſo to enter into the grounds proportioned within the ſame manor.

" But if any of the fens, &c. fall out to be again overflown, then there ſhall be reaſonable recompence made to the parties damnified, by the governor, out of the one hundred and twelve thouſand acres aſſigned for the perpetual maintenance and preſervation of the ſaid draining; to be aſſeſſed by any ſix juſtices of the peace (whereof two to be of the Quorum) where ſuch ſurrounding ſhall happen, payable when they ſhall appoint; and an action of debt to lie againſt the governors for the ſame, with damage for non-payment, &c. And if all the profit of the one hundred and twelve thouſand acres will not make ſatisfaction, then the whole muſt; and the parties damnified, according to their ſeveral eſtates, ſhall enter into all again, until the fens ſhall be recovered again by new draining or repairs at the undertakers coſt, &c.

" The undertakers to finiſh the works within three years next after this parliament.

" And after the ſaid draining, there ſhall be a *Corporation*, body politic, or a company of thirty known, diſcreet, and ſufficient perſons, by the name of the Governors of the Fens within the Iſle of Ely, and the Counties adjoining: And they ſhall be enabled to purchaſe and part with lands, &c. and to ſue and be ſued by that name. And the firſt to be theſe:——* Martin, biſhop of Ely. Sir Anthony Mildmay. * Sir John Peyton, governor of Guernſey. Sir Oliver Cromwell. * Sir Robert Bevel. Sir Edward Coke, attorney. * Sir John Cutts. * Sir John Heigham. * Sir Robert Wingfield. * Sir Robert Cotton. * Sir Edward Apeſly. * Sir Henry Warner.

Warner. * Sir Miles Sandes. * Sir Simeon Stuart. * Sir Thomas Lambert. Sir William Rumney, knts. Humphry Tyndal, dean of Ely. * Anthony Irby. Thomas War. Thomas Rawlyne. Henry Totnal, eſqrs. John Eldred. Roger Offield, of London, merchant, * John Fincham, and John Hunt, gents.

Thoſe mark'd thus * were Commiſſioners of Sewers.

" And as theſe do die, new to be choſen by the moſt voices out of ſuch lords or undertakers, as ſhall have one thouſand acres at the leaſt of lands aſſigned to the undertakers as aforeſaid."

The new Podike being found too narrow for paſſing the waters through into the Ouſe, lord chief juſtice Popham ordered a new river to be made, eighty feet wide, from March river to the Podike at Nordelph, and the Well creek below that to be diked ſixty feet wide, and ſunk as deep as the Ouſe, that thereby the fens in the iſle of Ely might be drained, and the extreme floods received. The fall at Salter's lode, from the ſoil of the fens to the low water mark in the river Ouſe, was then ten feet.

The 7th of Auguſt, 1605, this new river was begun, Mr. Richard Atkins then by; and the work was proſecuted ſo well, that upon the 21ſt of December following the waters were let through it to eaſe the iſle, and help Well river.

But Mr. Atkins ſaith, (my lord Popham dying) it was ſtopped up, in regard of the inſufficiency of the banks; till four years after, June 7, 1609, it was again purſued to be perfected, and was caſt two feet deeper, for the benefit of moſt part of the Iſle of Ely.

But

But this river being hotly purſued at the firſt making, went on without any ſatisfaction made for the ſeveral grounds which were cut through to make it, or the commons, by which it paſſed. Hereupon Sinolphus Bell, eſq. of Beaupre hall in Outwell, having much ground adjoining yearly drowned by this new river, (called Popham lode) obtained by a view of the commiſſioners, a law to keep the upper doors thereof ſhut, until the country would ſatisfy the parties injured; and alſo, ſo fortify the banks, that his grounds ſhould not thereby be hurt.

And the doors at the upper end were accordingly kept ſhut, ſo that no waters could paſs through this new river. "Which river (ſaith Mr. Atkins) was a worthy one, and well placed, having from Well town-end to Salter's lode, which is a little above four miles, more fall than there is thought to be between Peterborough and Well, which is forty miles and more, as the water cometh.

"This famous new river being ſtopped, the country lay in its former condition; and my lord Popham dying, his whole project was rejected: and ſo nothing was done. And the level, by reaſon of the diviſion there was between the commiſſioners of ſewers, &c. who had no power to make new works, and becauſe the country wanted proper drains, &c. continued to be greatly annoyed with water, which gave occaſion to the undertaking for a GENERAL DRAINING OF THE FENS.*"

The oppoſition which prevailed, and the undetermined ſtate of affairs, at this time, ſeemed to threaten total deſtruction to the great level. The power of the commiſſioners of ſewers to make new works by tax

* Badeſlade.

tax or rate, was even queſtioned, 'till the opinion of ſir Henry Hobart, attorney-general, was obtained by the privy-council, 1616: but notwithſtanding their power received this force, things remained in the ſame diſtracted and perilous condition.

In a petition from the commiſſioners to the lords and others of his majeſty's privy-council, June 19, 1618, they confine the means of effecting a general drainage to theſe two conſiderations:

I. That it be provided, that the three ancient rivers of Nene, Welland, and Ouſe, may be conveyed to the ſea by their ſeveral paſſages, with ſuch convenient outfalls, as ſhall be fitteſt for the ſeveral good and ſafety of all parts.

II. That care be taken of the town of Lynn, the country of Marſhland and Wiggenhall, the hundred of Wiſbech, and part of Holland.

On this repreſentation ſir Clement Edmonds, knt. was appointed to accompany a committee of the commiſſioners of ſewers on a view, who made the following report with regard to the Ouſe:

" My Lords,—The river Ouſe coming along by the town of Bedford, Huntingdon, and St. Ives, and ſo paſſing down to his outfall at Lynn, *is a goodly fair river throughout; and from below* Ely *downward runneth with ſuch a current, that as it is abſolutely the beſt ſewer of all that country*, ſo it is by the great fall of waters thereinto, as well from the river of Grant out of Cambridgeſhire, as from the drains which come out of the Iſle of Ely, much overcharged in winter, and in time of floods, to the prejudice of the adjacent parts: For remedy whereof former times have

have provided ſome by-ſewers or ſlakers, and among others the Weſt-water at Erith bridge below St. Ives, to receive part of the overcharge of water, and to eaſe the river where it is *narrow* and *knare*, and the *country* apt to be overflowed; and to carry it through the iſle of Ely (though otherwiſe to their prejudice) down again into the *ſame river* by *divers drains* and *inlets*, where the *channel* for *breadth* and *depth* affords better paſſage and conveyance to the *ſea:* but now the ſaid Weſt-water doth run a contrary courſe for want of cleanſing and *diking*, and falleth into Ouſe at Erith bridge, where it ſhould take his *courſe* out, as appeared upon *view* of the *committees*, to the overcharging of the ſaid river, inſtead of ſlaking or diſburthening the ſame."

In purſuance of an order from the lords, the earl of Arundel, ſir William Ayloff, knt. bart. Anthony Thomas, eſq. and others, took a view of the fens, and cauſed Mr. Hoxham, ſurveyor to the earl, to make a map thereof. "And they (to uſe their own words) having the aſſiſtance of ſome rare engineers which met them, and receiving and making ſpecial obſervations of theſe countries, reſolved (by God's help) at their own and their friends charges and expences, without raiſing or levying any taxes, contributions, or ſums of money, of or upon the inhabitants of thoſe countries, or any his majeſty's ſubjects, to venture the enterpriſing of the draining or all, or the moſt part; yea, of many thouſand acres of the fens, or ſurrounded grounds, and to make them dry, and to be good and profitable meadows and paſtures, and ſo to continue."

They laid this deſign before the privy-council, at the court at Greenwich, the 17th of May, 1619, and deſired to have theſe following conditions or con-

tracts to be made to them, and confirmed by good and lawful aſſurance.

'*Of all the king's majeſty's lands drowned with freſh or ſalt water in ſeveral counties, which we ſhall recover and make dry, the fee-farm rent of four-pence per acre, over and above all rents or revenues now in being, or coming to his majeſty.*

'*Of all the prince's highneſs lands, the like contract reſpectively.*

Of all the ſubjects lands—'1. *Which are ſo drowned or ſurrounded all the year, to have two third parts of all the ſame lands to us and our heirs, to be allowed and aſſigned to hold in ſeverality and perpetuity for ever.*

'2. *And all thoſe lands which are by half the year's ſpace, or more than half the year drowned; to have the one half of the ſame lands to us and our heirs in perpetuity.*

'And we hope, by God's grace, ſpeedily to drain a great part of the ſaid fens; and all, or the moſt part, within three years after the contracts made with his majeſty and his ſubjects.'

The king and council approving theſe offers, wrote to the commiſſioners, deſiring them to co-operate with the laudable endeavours of the undertakers. But the court of ſewers let them know, that *before they begun any works, they ſhould give ſecurity that they would not impair the navigation in the rivers of Ouſe, Nene, &c.* And when they had given ſecurity, they ſhould ſhew the country the means they intended in the draining of the level, that they might be ſatisfied

fied there would be *no prejudice of navigation in the rivers Ouſe and Grant, or hurt done to Marſhland.* If it was believed there would, all farther proceedings were to be ſtayed,

But the undertakers deſiring that they might not be preſſed to diſcover the means in every particular, until their agreement with the country was made perfect and ſure; and the commiſſioners having no power to give the undertakers any man's land without his voluntary conſent, and of agreeing with them; and on this occaſion many debates ariſing, that made either ſide unable to come to a concluſion, the undertakers repreſented theſe difficulties to the privy-council, and thereupon letters were written from that board, Feb. 29, 1720, " to the lords, knights, and gentlemen concerned in the fens, commanding them to attend his majeſty,"

Accordingly they did attend, when the undertakers were ordered to exhibit ſatisfactory proofs in writing, " What it was they promiſed to effect, and what they demanded as a recompence for their labour," which they did, in propoſals delivered to the commiſſioners April 13, 1621, as alſo their demand or proportion of each fen.

After ſome time ſpent in fruitleſs altercation, as to the terms, mode, and ſecurity, his majeſty, who was not willing to let the country ſuffer by any further delay, did himſelf undertake (by a law of ſewers) that great work.

But, as ſir William Dugdale ſays, whether it was the great diſturbance his majeſty had about this time, and after, till the end of his reign, for the regaining the Palatinate, &c. or what elſe was the impediment,

we ſhall not take upon us to ſay; but certain it is, nothing was done during that king's reign, nor until the 5th of Charles I. Then Francis earl of Bedford, who was owner of near twenty thouſand acres in Thorney and Whittleſey, was importuned by the country, and by the commiſſioners of ſewers, to undertake this great work of draining. And to ſecure the ſaid earl in his reward for ſo doing, to provide for the ſecurity of navigation, &c. a law of ſewers was made at Lynn, Jan. 13, 1630, ſpecifying the conditions and reſtrictions at large; to which forty-one commiſſioners preſent put their hands and ſeals. (See this law in the fourth ſection of Badeſlade's Hiſtory.)

This law being made, the earl of Bedford fell in hand with the work; and the better to purſue this noble undertaking, he took in divers participants, viz. Oliver earl of Bolingbroke, Edward lord Gorges, ſir Robert Heath, ſir Miles Sandys, ſir William Ruſſel, ſir Robert Bevill, ſir Thomas Terringham, ſir Philip Vernat, William Sams, doctor of law, Anthony Hammond, eſq. Samuel Spalding, Andrew Burwell, gent. ſir Robert Lovet, &c. who were to raiſe money for carrying on the work proportionable to the number of ſhares each had, each ſhare being four thouſand acres. And they began the work; and in order to carry off the ſuperfluous water wherewith the fens was much annoyed, cauſed theſe ſeveral canals to be made, viz.

Bedford river (now called Old Bedford) extending from Erith to Salter's lode, ſeventy feet wide, and twenty-one miles long, to take off the high floods from the river Ouſe, and placed at each end thereof a ſluice of great ſtrength.

Sam's

Sam's cut, from Feltwell to Ouſe, twenty feet broad, and ſix miles long.

A cut to drain Mildenhall river in Burnt fen near Littleport, forty feet wide, and two miles long.

Bevil's leam from Whittleſey mere to Guyhirn, forty feet wide, and ten miles long,

And likewiſe made a great ſaſs at Well creak-end, at Salter's lode, to keep the tides out of that river.

And to the end they might accompliſh this ſo great undertaking, and preſerve the works after compleated;

The ſaid earl and his participants did, the 10th of Charles I. obtain letters patent of incorporation, bearing date March 13, 1634, which being accompliſhed, the works aforeſaid were carried on; and about three years after, in a ſeſſion of ſewers holden at Peterborough, Octob. 12, Car. 13. the level was adjudged drained; and ninety-five thouſand acres were ſet out by ſix or more commiſſioners unto the ſaid earl of Bedford, his heirs and aſſigns. The charge of the ſaid work to the ſaid earl and his participants having been one hundred thouſand pounds.

But notwithſtanding this great expence, it was evidently diſcerned, that though the lands were much improved by thoſe works, yet were they ſubject to inundation, eſpecially in the winter ſeaſon; and therefore in a ſeſſion of ſewers held at Huntingdon, April 12, the year enſuing, the ſaid earl of Bedford's undertaking was adjudged defective.

Hereupon king Charles I. taking this buſineſs into his princely conſideration, and foreſeeing that if this

level of four hundred thouſand acres could be made winter lands, they would be of extraordinary benefit to the commonwealth, viz. of 600,000l. per ann. value, according to the eſtimation of ſir Cornelius Vermuyden, as alſo a certain and great revenue to all perſons intereſted; his majeſty was therefore pleaſed to undertake, at his own charge, to make the level winter grounds.

And for the better performing thereof, he commanded divers perſons, expert in ſuch adventures, to give their advice how theſe lands might be made winter grounds.

Amongſt theſe artiſts was ſir Cornelius Vermuyden, a Dutchman, who had purchaſed of the king the level of Hatfield chace; one half of which chace, viz. ninety thouſand acres were hurtfully drowned, and he undertook to reduce it to conſtant arable and paſture grounds, and which he at laſt did, at the incredible labour and charges of above four hundred thouſand pounds. They all agreed that it was feaſible, but differed much in the manner or way to accompliſh it. Sir Cornelius Vermuyden's ſcheme had the preference. And July 18, 1638, the king was declared undertaker. And was to have not only thoſe ninety-five thouſand acres, which had been ſet out for the earl of Bedford, but alſo fifty-ſeven thouſand acres more from the country, his majeſty's deſign being to make the land good winter grounds.

And the earl of Bedford, in conſideration of the coſt he had been at, was to have forty thouſand of the ninety-five thouſand acres.

The

The king, to manifeſt his earneſt and real purpoſes for the ſpeedy draining, cauſed ſeveral works to be done.

But here, ſays Dugdale, we come to a period of this excellent prince's deſign. For he being forced to raiſe an army againſt the Scots in 1638, and continuing the reſt of his life involved in an unnatural war at home, the level lay neglected, and the country complaining they had received no benefit by the draining, they entered upon the ninety-five thouſand acres again, which had been taken from them.

Soon as the king was dead, (viz. anno 1641) Francis earl of Bedford, and his participants, made their application to the then parliament, and had their caſe committed: but the civil war hindering them from any further proſecution of this undertaking, it occaſioned the works made by him and by the king, to decay and become in a great meaſure uſeleſs, nor were there any new works made

Until 1649, William earl of Bedford, ſon and heir to the late Francis, being willing to proſecute a work, wherein his father had been ſo great an adventurer, made his addreſs in behalf of himſelf and others his participants, to the convention parliament at Weſtminſter. And he obtained an act (the 29th of May in the year aforeſaid) entitled, *An Act for Draining the Great Level of the Fens*, &c. which declared the ſaid William earl of Bedford, and his participants, to be the undertakers of the work of draining the ſaid great level, and ordered, " That they ſhould at, or before the 10th day of October, which ſhould be in the year of our Lord 1656, cauſe the ſame to be *drained and imbanked without prejudice to navigation in the rivers or parts adjacent; and all the*

ſaid level ſhould be made winter ground, in ſuch manner as the ſaid rivers, or any of them, ſhould not overflow the grounds within the ſaid level. And for bearing the charge of draining, and maintaining the works from time to time, ſhould have and enjoy he ſaid whole ninety-five thouſand acres, as the ſame had heretofore been ſet forth in October, in the 13th year of the reign of the late king Charles I. or hereafter ſhould, by virtue of this act, be allotted, &c."

And as Charles I. preferred ſir Cornelius Vermuyden's ſcheme for draining, and followed it when he imbanked Morton's-leam, ſetting the banks in ſome places a mile aſunder, for the waters to bed in; ſo did the earl in making the New Bedford river and receptacle.

But this practice Van Weſterdyke, who was ſent for to view the fens, ſays, ſir Cornelius could give him no reaſons for. And John Bavents Weſterdyke, who viewed the fens in 1650, farther ſays, "Experience will ſhew, that waters kept together in a body paſs ſwiftly, and mend their channel; but divided and diſperſed paſs away very ſlowly, and in time loſe their channel."—Atkins is of this opinion.

Col. Dodſon, who writ a piece for draining, (and was director of the Corporation of Adventurers works) ſaith, p. 7, "But I wiſh that thoſe banks which are upon Bedford river and Morton's-leam had not been placed at ſo great diſtance one from another." And indeed many arguments were printed againſt Vermuyden's ſcheme, and againſt ſetting banks of rivers at a great diſtance aſunder, about the time of the undertaking the draining.

Mr.

Mr. Edmund Scotton wrote a piece, intitled, "A deſperate and dangerous deſign diſcovered concerning the fen countries," in anſwer to ſir Cornelius Vermuyden's "Diſcourſe touching the draining of the great fens," &c. And lord Gorges declared in writing, "That it was ever his opinion, that the better way of draining this South Level (for whoſe benefit alone the ſluices were intended) is by banks without any ſluices at all at Denver, according to the certain rules of draining, which is to imbank all rivers and brook waters; and never to put ſluices upon ſuch waters as have a continual body to preſerve their channels or outfalls from ſilting up by tides."

There were alſo ſeveral pieces printed about this time againſt ſir Cornelius Vermuyden's ſcheme by the inhabitants of the fens; and others who endeavoured to prove how prejudicial his ſcheme, if carried into execution, would be to *drainage* and *navigation;* notwithſtanding which, A. D. 1650, the undertakers for draining the fens did execute that ſcheme, and ſluices were by them decreed to be made near Salter's lode, croſs the river Ouſe, beneath the mouths of Stoke, Brandon, Mildenhall, and Grant rivers, to ſtop the tidal flood from putting into any of them: and alſo the New Bedford river was decreed to be digged from Salter's lode to Erith, in length twenty-one miles; and ſluices were alſo by the ſaid corporation decreed to be ſet down croſs the old channel of Ouſe at the Hermitage near Erith, to turn the waters out of their ancient courſe down the ſaid New Bedford river, according to ſir Cornelius Vermuyden's project.

We cannot help obſerving, that the expence of executing this artificial ſcheme was calculated at but 8000l. leſs than the charge would have been of imbanking

banking the natural rivers, and following the known ſure rules of draining; and there was ſo great a diviſion amongſt the adventurers which method to follow, that the majority for ſluicing the river Ouſe was but one vote; and that majority was occaſioned by the private intereſt of —— who had ſome lands in the South Level.

As ſoon as the corporations of the univerſity and town of Cambridge, and of King's Lynn, had knowledge of this decree of the adventurers to erect ſluices croſs the great river Ouſe, they being apprehenſive that ſuch ſluices would utterly deſtroy navigation, they petitioned the commiſſioners that were appointed by the act in 1649, to judge between the country and the adventurers, in the moſt moving terms againſt ſuch ſluices being built.

And, continues Mr. Badeſlade, "Notwithſtanding all theſe reſtraints, remonſtrances, and reaſons to the contrary, yet in oppoſition to the laws of their country—to the rules of draining—to their own act of parliament, they did build ſluices croſs the river of Great Ouſe, at Erith, and at Denver hithe."

Beſides repeated petitions from Lynn Regis and Cambridge, the town of Brandon and borough of Thetford remonſtrated againſt the erecting of Denver ſluice, &c.

The adventurers, to juſtify themſelves againſt the petitioners complaints before the parliament, made the following objections:

"That inſtead of the old little rivers, they have "given another new river, called Bedford River, "which is as large and open, and a receptacle at "leaſt

" leaſt equivalent, if not better than what they have " taken away: that the tides do flow as high into " the the country as formerly, with this advantage, " that they flow and return now by a ſtrait channel " inſtead of a crooked.

" It was the dryneſs of the ſeaſon, and not the " undertakers works, that had prejudiced navigation; " for if the ſprings are dry, the ſtream muſt needs " fail.——That the city of London do not petition " in regard the navigation of the Thames was never " ſo bad.

" The commiſſioners hearing all objections, and " after examination of witneſſes upon oath, and af- " ter their own view upon the place, have adjudged " the fens drained according to the act.

" It was proved upon the adjudication, that full " as much, if not more, freſh water did run out at " Lynn haven as formerly.

" The raiſing the price of water-carriage was a " contrivance of watermen, and ſome of ability of- " fered to carry as cheap as ever.

" In former times there never was any conſtant " ſummer navigation to Cambridge: This laſt ſum- " mer there was.

" In regard the petitions of Lynn and Cambridge " tend to the overthrowing the whole work of drain- " ing, and call in queſtion matters of fact adjudged " by the commiſſioners upon their view; therefore " the petitioners are not to be relieved even in par- " liament."

When

When Charles II. was reſtored to the crown, the acts of the late lord protector became invalid; conſequently that of 1649, under colour of which the works complained of were made, was no longer in force: ſo that the undertakers for draining ſtood upon the foot of the law made by the commiſſioners of ſewers, anno 6 Car. I. and became ſubject to the general commiſſion of ſewers: which perplexing the ſaid undertakers, they procured an act of parliament the 15th of Car. II. entitled, *An Act for ſettling the Draining of the great Level of the Fens, called Bedford Level*; by which they were incorporated by the name of "The Governor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of "the Company of Conſervators of the Great Level "of the Fens, called Bedford Level, to have perpe-"tual ſucceſſion for ever." And it is therein enacted:

"That the Governor, ſix Bailiffs, and twenty "Conſervators, or any five or more, ſhould be Com-"miſſioners of Sewers within the ſaid Level, and "the works without the ſaid Level, for conveying "the Waters of the ſaid Level to ſea.

"That no other Commiſſioners of Sewers ſhall "intermeddle, &c."

Upon paſſing this act, the town of Lynn did, by their repreſentatives, oppoſe the continuing of the dam and ſluices made croſs the river Ouſe at Denver and at Erith, and they procured ſome favourable clauſes to be inſerted in the ſaid act.

The corporation of Lynn complained to theſe commiſſioners, anno 1669, 1676, and 1677, of the prejudices done to their navigation by the ſaid corporation of fen-drainers, and repreſented their increaſing

creaſing danger of total loſs of it; but could obtain no relief, while the commiſſioners that were named in the act lived. And as they died, for want of nomination in ſucceſſion, as mentioned in the aforeſaid act of parliament, this judicature became extinct, and the remedies preſcribed by the ſaid act conſequently determined.

Several affidavits, and other evidences, were adduced, to convince parliament how much Denver ſluice, &c. had effected the decay of the river, haven and channel, at and below Lynn.

Edmund Hooke, eſq. mayor of King's Lynn, addreſſed a letter, dated Jan. 6, 1695, to the duke of Bedford, then governor of the adventurers, beſeeching his grace to uſe his influence and authority with the corporation in behalf of the navigation. This letter was delivered by ſir H. Hobart, of Blickling, R. Walpole, eſq. of Houghton, ſir John Turner, of Lynn, and ſir Charles Turner, of Warham; but receiving no ſatisfactory anſwer, a bill was brought into parliament by ſir Charles Turner, "For the better preſervation of the port of King's Lynn." As alſo petitions from Marſhland, univerſity and borough of Cambridge, borough of Thetford, St. Edmund's Bury, Brandon, Stoke, and many towns in and by the ſouth level. The bill was twice read, and oppoſed by petitions from the county and borough of Huntingdon, Ely, the adventurers, &c. when, after council and witneſs had been heard on both ſides, the motion for committing the bill paſſed in the negative.

The ſtate of draining remained in a precarious uncertainty from the time of erecting Denver ſluices, at 7000l. expence, 1651, 'till they were undermined firſt,

firſt, and afterwards blown up and deſtroyed by the tides from ſea, anno 1713. Badeſlade ſays the Ouſe at Denver hithe was formerly one hundred and fifty feet wide, whereas the water-way through the ſluices is now only eighty feet. The ſame writer, after enumerating various cauſes and conſequences, adds, "By that power (meaning a clauſe in an act of parliament, authoriſing the adventurers to extend their works without the level) were Denver ſluices built, and St. John's Eau and Tong's drain made; which works have almoſt deſtroyed the outfall of the river Ouſe, the draining in the fens, and the navigation of Lynn."*

Beſides the works of draining maintained by the adventurers in the north and middle level, the corporation charge themſelves with the following in the ſouth level, which comprehends all the fen-lands eaſt of the Old Bedford river, in Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridgeſhire, and bears a proporion of one ſeventeenth to the draining taxes

South bank of the river Ouſe, from the hard lands of Swacey, &c. to the Hermitage, and the ſaſs or ſluice there.

The river called New Bedford River, from the Hermitage to Salter's lode, with the banks, forelands, wear-dikes and ſluices thereof.

The drain that leads from Ewel fen to Audrey cauſeway, and from thence into the Old Ouſe at Audrey bridge.

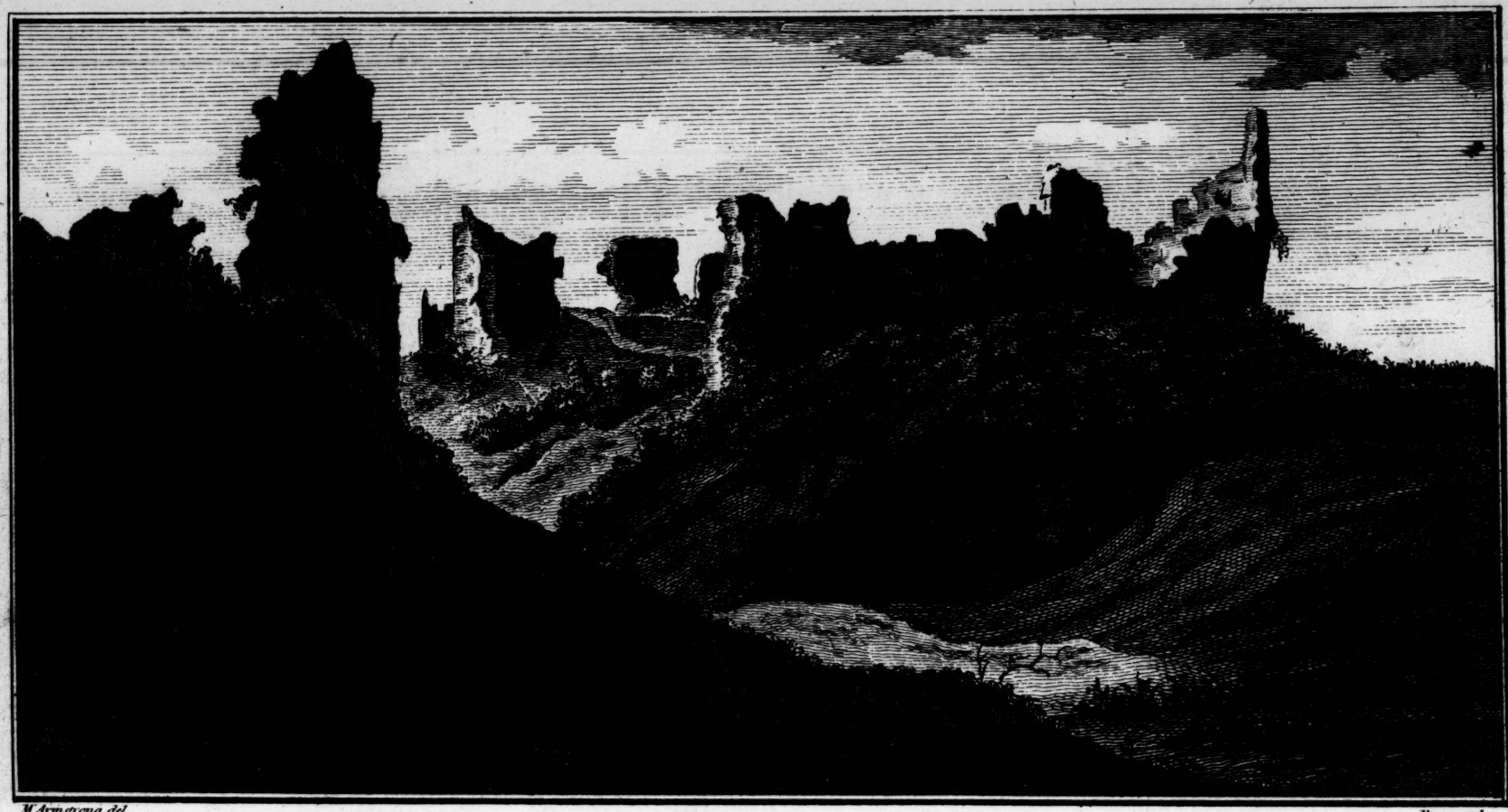
Grunty fen drain, from Grunty fen to the Old Ouſe, at Littleport chair, with its banks.

Part

* Badeſlade.



CASTLE-ACRE CASTLE,



M. Armstrong. del.

Royce sculp.

Part of Old Welney river.

Littleport drain.

Maid lode and Modney drain, with the ſluices to the ſame.

The drain that carries away Hogginton brook, with the banks to be raiſed.

The river Grant, from Clay hithe to Harrimere, with the banks, forelands, wear-dikes, and ſluices thereof.

The banks of Old Ouſe, from Harrimere to Chitterings.

The new long drain from Wicken-high fen to the tunnel, under Soham new river, and ſo to the tunnel under Mildenhall river; from thence to the tunnel under Brandon river, and ſo to the tunnel under Stoke river; and from thence through Downham Eau to the ſluice, at the lower end thereof near Stow bridge.

The eaſt banks of Ouſe, from Harrimere to the Brick ſluice, at Prick-willow, within the wear-dike thereof.

The new bank on the weſt ſide of the river Ouſe from Harrimere to Ely high-bridge.

The drains from the eaſt end of the Adventurers lands, taken out of Soham common, to the wear-dike of Mildenhall river.

Mildenhall river, with the banks, forelands, and wear-dikes thereof.

The eaſt banks of the river Ouſe, from Mildenhall river to the ſluice at the lower end of Mildenhall drain, near Littleport chair.

Mildenhall drain, from the laſt-mentioned ſluice to Mildenhall common.

The river Ouſe, with the banks, forelands, wear-dikes, ſluices, and tunnels thereof from Littleport-chair to Denver dam, excepting the ſluices, tunnels, and water-works heretofore made and maintained by Edmund Skipwith, eſq. deceaſed, and other particular owners of lands within or near the ſaid great level, for his or their own private benefit.

Lakenheath drain, from Wainsford brook to the tunnel under Lakenheath new lode, and ſo to the tunnels under Brandon river.

Brandon river, with the banks, forelands, and wear-dikes thereto belonging.

Feltwell drain, to its outfall into the river of Ouſe at Palmer's houſe.

Sam's cut, from Feltwell to the river Ouſe.

Stoke river, with the banks, forelands, wear-dikes and ſluices.

A tunnel under Methwold lode for the draining of Northwold fens.

Roxham drain, with the banks thereof.

Theſe works and drains are, from time to time, preſerved and maintained at the coſts and charges of the

the ſaid corporation and their ſucceſſors, owners of the ſaid ninety-five thouſand acres mentioned in the act of the 15th of Charles II. and not by the owners of any of the lands within the ſaid great level, other than of the ſaid ninety-five thouſand acres; except in caſes where particular contracts have been made by the ſaid corporation†.

The only poſſible means, ſays Badeſlade, of making the tides and freſhes capable (as they heretofore were) of working theſe uſeful and deſirable effects, is to give nature her way, and to aſſiſt her where needful; as is adviſed by the honourable Col. John Armſtrong, his majeſty's now engineer-general, in the report he made to the Right Hon. Robert Walpole, eſq. and to the Right Hon. Henry earl of Lincoln, the 12th of May, 1724, viz.

" 1. To open the Old Ouſe from Harrimere to Hermitage, near Erith, to its ancient breadth and depth; and with the earth that comes out of it, to form banks on the ſides thereof, to prevent the land-floods or freſhes overflowing the adjacent lands in the winter.

" 2. To remove the gravels near Stretham, or wherever elſe they are to be found in the river Ouſe, or other impediments, to the end the land-floods, whenever they deſcend, may find out a quick paſſage to ſea, and carry off all the ſilt and ſand they meet in their way.

" 3. To take up the remains of Denver ſluices, or make a new cut juſt by them, to render the river (now but eighty feet wide) in this place one hundred and fifty feet wide, as it formerly was; ſo that the tides may have full liberty to flow up by the Ouſe

f into

† Fortrey, anno 1685.

into their ancient receptacles, viz. the rivers Stoke, Brandon, Mildenhall and Grant, which will contain a ſufficient indraught of back-water for deepening the Ouſe upon its return, and thereby reſtoring its navigation within land; as well as giving the land-floods, when they deſcend, a ſwifter paſſage to diſcharge themſelves by the port of Lynn into the ſea,

" 4. To take up the ſluice, or ſaſs, now at the Hermitage upon the river Ouſe near Erith, and if it ſhall be thought neceſſary, to ſet it down again in the New Bedford river, or one hundred feet cut near the ſaid Hermitage, for the benefit of navigation only. And thereby to ſend the land-floods down the river Ouſe, their natural channel, which muſt as afore-mentioned have good effect; and prevent their deſcending for the future by the New Bedford river, and running unnaturally, as they for ſome years paſt have been obſerved to do, (for many days together) to the great damage of the river Ouſe; and if not timely remedied, will be the total deſtruction of navigation upon that river, and the other rivers upward towards Cambridge, as it is already that of Draining.

" By this method, I am humbly of opinion, that the land-floods, or freſhes, being turned into the river Ouſe, their natural channel, joined to the reflux of the tide; which will now have a much larger indraught for a back-water, than it hath had for many years before; will infallibly deepen the Ouſe in a very little time to its ancient depth, by driving out to ſea the ſand and ſilt with which it is now very near choaked up; and thereby not only render all the fens capable of being drained effectually, but all the rivers that fall into it, will be, by being deepened, made capable of carrying as large barges or boats as

ever

ever they did heretofore; and beſides, it will deepen and clear out the haven of Lynn, and the channel from thence down to ſea.

"JOHN ARMSTRONG."

May 10, 1724.

And it is Mr. Badeſlade's firm opinion, "That theſe fens, though now they be totally drowned, will ſome few ages hence (if the method propoſed by Col. Armſtrong be executed) become good meadow land."

A deputation from Lynn waited on the corporation of adventurers at Ely, Auguſt 1724, with Col. Armſtrong's report: at the ſame time Mr. Charles Bridgman preſented a report and ſcheme on the part of the adventurers, which they ſoon after gave up, yet did not adopt the other.

Mr. Badeſlade's ſcheme, printed in 1729, "The method to drain the fens I humbly conceive muſt be:

"To do with the Ouſe, what nature hath done to all other rivers, and what ſhe would have done to this new one, if ſhe had had as many ages for her operations here, as ſhe hath had on the old rivers.

"To make the Ouſe wide in proportion to its length, and in proportion to the waters that ſhould be conveyed through it to ſea.

"To make this river that hath not had this vaſt confluence of waters lead to it above ſix or ſeven hundred years, and great part of that time hath been obſtructed by ſluices, and not only confined from

being worn wider by the water at the four bridges, but hath been encroached upon and made narrow, and is the narroweſt river in the world for its length. To make this river as wide in ſome meaſure, as it would have been if all theſe waters (that have this courſe in default of their former outfall) had had their courſe through it originally.

" To make this river that hath more land to drain, and hath more freſh water to convey to ſea than hath the Thames, in ſome meaſure capacious like the Thames.

" To make the river Ouſe, from Denver to ſea-ward, *wide* enough to receive and convey through its banks the high-country freſhes, which for want of room to get to ſea in reaſonable time, do overflow and hurtfully ſurround the Great Level of the Fens."

Meſſrs. Chicheley, Kinderley, &c. in a ſcheme publiſhed in 1721, propoſed making the outfall *narrower*, in order to drain the fens.

Capt. Perry propoſed, Feb. 6, 1729, ſluicing the Ouſe in many places, in order to drain the fens by *artificial ſewers*.

According to a ſurvey delivered by Mr. William Hayward, upon oath, July 13, 1605, the whole of the fen-lands in the Great Bedford Level amount to three hundred and ſeven thouſand two hundred and forty-two acres.

The particular quantities and qualities of the eighty-three thouſand acres, ſorted, rated and valued, by the commiſſioners under the 20th of Charles II. ſhewing the quantity of land of each of the eleven ſorts,

ſorts, and how much each ſort raiſes on a ſingle tax. The other twelve thouſand acres, called the King's Land, and the two thouſand acres, called the Earl of Portland's Lands, are taxed at fifteen pence per acre, when the eighty-three thouſand acres are rated at a ſingle tax and a quarter of a ſingle tax; but that ſum is increaſed in proportion with the eighty-three thouſand acres, when they are taxed higher than a tax and a quarter; decreaſed, in the ſame proportion, when they are taxed lower.

Sorts	Tax. D.	A.	R.	P.	£.	s.	d.
1.	4	7591	0	0	126	10	4
2.	8	17710	2	0	590	7	0
3.	12	26715	1	0	1335	14	0
4.	16	22628	0	0	1508	10	8
5.	20	4642	2	0	386	17	6
6.	24	1670	3	0	167	1	6
7.	28	789	0	0	92	1	0
8.	32	447	3	32	59	14	0
9.	36	368	0	0	55	4	0
10.	40	53	0	0	8	16	8
11.	44	384	0	8	70	8	0
		83000	0	0	4401	5	8

The amount of a whole tax on the eighty-three thouſand acres, excluſive of the twelve thouſand acres 4401 5 8

At a meeting held the third of November, 1774, at the Shire-hall at Ely, purſuant to advertiſement, to take the ſenſe of the country reſpecting the diſtreſſed ſtate of the Middle and South Levels; the country then preſent did requeſt the corporation to make an application to the parliament, to impoſe a temporary tax, not exceeding ſix-pence per acre, to continue not longer than ſeven years, upon all the adventurers and free-lands in the Middle and South Levels, together with a tax on the tonnage of navigation carried through the ſaid levels; for the effectual draining and preſerving the ſame, by ſuch ways and means as ſhould be agreed on between the country and corporation, to be ſpecified in the act to be obtained for that purpoſe: which ſaid reſolution was taken into conſideration at the annual April meeting of the corporation, holden at Ely this day, and it was then agreed, that a ſum ſhould be raiſed, equal to the amount of ſixpence per acre, upon the free-lands within the Middle and South Levels, (commons excepted) to be proportionably aſſeſſed, according to the different value thereof, to be eſtimated by the general acre tax, to which the adjacent adventure lands are now ſubject; and alſo that two-pence an acre ſhould be raiſed upon the commons, without any regard to their value. Which taxes ſhall be continued for ſeven years, and no longer; and be applied to the GENERAL DRAINAGE.

The terms upon which the above taxes are agreed to be raiſed, are as follows:

Firſt, That the corporation ſhall aſſeſs the adventure-lands, at a tax and an half, during the continuance of the aforeſaid new taxes.

Secondly, That a further tax, equal to the amount of ſix-pence per acre, ſhall be raiſed upon all the adventure

adventure-lands, by a gradual acre tax, in the like manner as their preſent taxes are raiſed.

Thirdly. That a tonnage be laid upon all goods carried to Lynn and Wiſbech by water, out of the country, and from Lynn and Wiſbech up into the country. The quantum of which tonnage is propoſed to be ſettled between the corporation and the merchants and others intereſted therein.

Fourthly, That the taxes to be raiſed on the free-lands ſhall be applied to the purpoſes of this act, under the direction of a committee to be choſen by the owners of ſuch free-lands.

The works intended to be done will be ſet out and particularly deſcribed in the bill to be offered to parliament, copies whereof will be timely diſtributed throughout the country.

The great works propoſed to be done are,

Firſt, To obtain a ſufficient outfall to ſea, near Lynn, by ſuch methods as was formerly propoſed by Mr. Kinderley, or by ſuch other means as ſhall be judged more adviſable, by able engineers: next, to deepen the great rivers, to wit, the river from Wiſbech to Standground; the Old and New Bedford; the rivers Nene, Ouſe, Mildenhall, Brandon, and Stoke; and afterwards to do ſuch other works, as ſhall be for the "benefit of navigation and drainage."

Each level to have the benefit of its own taxes, and the tonnage for making good the great outfalls.

Publiſhed by order of the Board, April 20, 1775.

Mr. William Elſtobb, in his obſervations on the foregoing reſolutions, printed in 1776, ſays: "And as theſe ninety-five thouſand acres were allotted upon thoſe conditions, it became neceſſary to charge them with an annual taxation, and as at firſt the whole was conſidered as one ſingle plot, the land was promiſcuouſly rated by an acre-tax; but afterwards for the more orderly management and better regulation, the whole tract was divided into three diſtinct diſtricts, or levels, viz. the North Level, the Middle Level, and the South Level. And, in the taxation, the lands were rated according to their ſeveral different qualities, by a gradual and proportional acre-tax, of eleven different ſorts or degrees, in ſuch a manner, that when the annual tax upon the whole

	£.	s.	d.
95000 acres amounts to —	5051	7	2
It is called a ſingle tax, out of which the North Level paid —	621	14	8¾
And the Middle and South Levels	4429	12	5¼
And when the ſaid lands are rated in ſuch a manner as they call a tax and one-fourth, the whole amount is — — —	6314	3	11
Out of which the North Level paid	777	3	4½
And the Middle and South Levels	5537	0	6¾
And this is ſaid to have been a pretty uſual tax.			
When the aforeſaid lands are rated at a tax and a half, which is ſomething more than common, the whole amount is — —	7577	0	9

Out

	£.	s.	d.
Out of which the North Level paid	932	12	0½
And the Middle and South Levels	6644	8	8½
These taxes uſed to be employed to the ſupport and maintenance, and making ſuch new works as were thought neceſſary, in any or all the levels indifferently, or as occaſion might require, and the ſecurity of money borrowed reſted upon the whole revenue indiſcriminately, 'till about the year 1728, the North Level was put upon a ſeparate management from the other two, at which time it is ſaid the corporation bond debts amounted to —	16300	0	0
And that from that time to Lady-day, 1752, there was borrowed for the ſervice of the Middle and South Levels — —	15840	0	0
So that the whole of the corporation debt at Lady-day, 1752, was	32140	0	0

"What the ſtate of their finances may have been ſince that time, I cannot take upon me to determine. I ſhall only obſerve, that though the North Level was then under a ſeparate management, yet its taxes were not under any particular appropriation till about the year 1753, when an act of parliament was obtained for *appropriating them* to the ſole uſe of *that level*, to fix them at a certain determinate limitation of a tax, or ——— and to diſengage them from all obligations for money borrowed, or that had been borrowed by the corporation before that time; and from

from that time the ſaid level was to be entirely taken from the direction of the corporation, and to be put under the direction of certain commiſſioners nominated for that purpoſe, under which direction it now ſtands.

" In all ordinary caſes of contract, it is looked upon, that the work undertaken, ſhould be completed for the reward ſtipulated and the recompence given.

" But after more than an hundred years enjoyment of the reward, the country are now told by the undertakers, that the work cannot be compleated without further aid and aſſiſtance.

" Perhaps it may be ſaid, that one of the great works intended to be done, is the making of a new ſtrait cut from ſome where near St, Germans, or St. Peter's, to Lynn, as was formerly propoſed by John Chicheley, eſq. and lately by Mr. Kinderley, which it is apprehended will be of advantage to trade and navigation, for which reaſon all perſons intereſted in trade and commerce *ought* to be contributors.

" All this appears to be equitable and right, provided they could be fully ſatisfied they ſhould obtain the advantage which Mr. Kinderley and ſome others are of opinion, would ariſe from it; but ſome able engineers, as Badeſlade, &c. &c. are of a contrary opinion, and think ſuch a cut would be prejudicial: and ſome are of opinion that it is unneceſſary, and that the preſent channel might at a leſs expence be ſo amended, as to anſwer the purpoſe of draining as well as navigation."

The

The ſame writer inſiſts, that the improvement and ſecurity of the great level of the fens, "depends upon two principal circumſtances.

"The firſt is the conveying the high-land and foreign waters through them, as much under ſoil, as calmly, and as expeditiouſly as poſſible.

"This can only be done by large and deep rivers, with banks ſet at moderate diſtances, to ſcreen and ſhelter the water running between them, from the violent force of the wind, according to the ſentiments, and upon the ſame principles, as thoſe advanced by Van Scotten, Weſterdyke, and almoſt all the engineers that have wrote ſince their time upon the ſubject.

"The ſecond way, is to make ſeparate drains, channels and tunnels, where neceſſary to lead away the downfall waters, to ſome lower part of the principal rivers, or to ſome ſeparate outfall by themſelves."

"As to the intended new cut, I have only to add, that in my humble opinion, the bringing it into the old river a little below Germans, as propoſed by Mr. Kinderley, would anſwer all the expected purpoſes, as well, as carrying it up to St. Peter's; will cut through leſs land, and be attended with leſs expence, and the old channel may be almoſt as eaſily damed over there, as more upward; for in my humble opinion, damed up it muſt be, or otherwiſe in a little time the two channels will ſpoil each other."

February 10, 1777, the petition, which is now the ſubject of public controverſy, was preſented to the Houſe of Commons by ſir John Hinde Cotton; the

the prayer of which runs thus: "Your petitioners "humbly pray this honourable houſe, that leave "may be given to bring in a bill, for preſerving the "drainage of the Middle and South Levels, and "the ſeveral navigations through the ſame; and for "impoſing taxes on the lands within the ſaid levels, "and laying tolls on goods conveyed by the ſaid "navigations, in order to raiſe further neceſſary funds "for that purpoſe."

The committee, to whom the petition was referred, having examined records, eſtimates, &c made their report the 21ſt of March following. Amongſt the many evidences brought before them,

"Mr. Thomas Hogard, an engineer, being examined, ſaid, that the rain and ſpring waters, out of part of the counties of Northampton, Norfolk, Suffolk, Lincoln, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Buckingham, Hertford, and Eſſex, have their courſe by natural rivers to the ſea at Lynn and Wiſbech, thro' the Bedford level.

"Mr. John Wing, being examined, ſaid, that the adventure-lands and the free-lands are equally liable to be overflowed; and,

"Charles Nalſon Cole, eſq. regiſter to the Bedford Level Corporation, informed your committee, that, ſince the paſſing of the act of the 15th year of king Charles II. above five hundred thouſand pounds have been expended on the three levels by the ſaid corporation, and that a ſingle tax produces about four thouſand pounds a year.

"Your committee then examined Mr. John Brown; who informed them, that the laſt tax, which was

one

one whole tax and an half, was laid on the adventure-lands within the middle and ſouth levels for 6628l. 7s. but he could not ſay how much it produced; that the corporation are not limited in regard to taxation; that the taxes on the adventurers lands have been ſo high, as to induce the proprietors of near one-ſixth part of the whole to abandon their property rather than pay the ſame; that, in the year 1750, upwards of four thouſand acres were ſo abandoned, and upwards of eight thouſand thrown up before were veſted in the corporation, and in 1763 upwards of ten thouſand acres were in the inveſted roll, and put up by the corporation to be lett for a year; that in 1763 the tax was laid for 5523l. 12s. 6d. and was one whole tax and an half; that the ten thouſand acres were not put up in one lot; that the inveſted lands are lett by public auction at each April, and for one year only; that no lands are ever veſted in the corporation when they will pay the taxes on them; and that, when they are ſo inveſted, the corporation cannot ſell them without the aid of parliament; that he has heard from one of the members of the Bedford Level Corporation, and has good reaſon to believe, that there will be a greater number of acres thrown up at the next April meeting than ever was known." And being aſked, "Whether the corporation had contracted any debts on account of the middle and ſouth levels;" he ſaid, "They had, amounting to 38,000l. beſides expending the taxes; that the ſaid debt has been ever ſince the commencement in contracting, and is over and above ſeveral ſums given up to the corporation."

"Mr. Cole being aſked, "Whether the corporation, by letting and ſelling inveſted lands, had reimburſed themſelves the ſums laid thereon in taxes?" ſaid,

ſaid, "They had not, and that he did not know the number of acres at preſent veſted in the corporation for non-payment of the taxes."

"Mr Thomas Hogard being further examined, ſaid, "That, by improvements in agriculture, the downfall is communicated to the ſeveral brooks and rivers, and by the amendments of the roads great quantities of water are conveyed through the level to the ſea." And being aſked, "Whether that additional water from the upland country would not increaſe the ſtream, and deepen the rivers; he ſaid, "It would, if the banks were kept up; but that, if they are broke down, the adjacent country would be overflowed."

"In order to ſhew the ſtate of the navigation on the ſeveral rivers running through the ſaid level, Mr. James Golborne was examined; who gave your committee an account, "That, between the 4th of May, 1776, and the 3d of February, 1777, there had paſſed, on the Hundred-Foot River, two thouſand ſix hundred and nine-two boats and lighters, carrying together twenty-four thouſand five hundred and ſixty-four tons of goods; and that altogether one thouſand two hundred and ſixty-five pretty large horſes had paſſed along the banks, employed in haling the ſame; that, in the ſame time, there had paſſed through Denver ſluice, on the Ouſe, ſeven thouſand and ſeventy boats and lighters, conveying fifty-four thouſand five hundred and eighty-two tons of goods, and haled by three thouſand ſix hundred and ninety-four horſes; and on the Nene and Old Bedford rivers in the ſame time, four thouſand one hundred and one boats and lighters, conveying thirty-two thouſand two hundred and thirty-nine tons of goods, and haled by two thouſand and fifty-nine horſes;

horſes; that there had paſſed Standground ſluice on the Nene, from the 16th of May, 1776, to the 2d of February, 1777, three thouſand ſix hundred and ſeventeen boats and lighters, conveying twenty-three thouſand five hundred and three tons of goods, and haled by one thouſand ſix hundred and eleven horſes." And being aſked,, "Whether the banks of the ſaid rivers are damaged by the horſes employed in haling veſſels going upon them;" he ſaid, "They are, very greatly; that the horſes do not draw in a right line one behind the other, but obliquely, and ſo cover a larger ſpace, and do more damage than would be done by common drawing; and that there is not to his knowledge any compenſation made to the Bedford Level Corporation for the damage ſo done."

"Mr. Hogard being deſired to deſcribe the length of each particular bank, of which the ſaid one hundred and ſeventy miles is compoſed, he gave the committee the following ſtate of them:

	Miles
The ſouth bank and Morton's leam —	12
The Ouſe from Denver ſluice to the Hermitage	29
The river Cam from Clay hithe to Harrimere	9
Well creak — — —	7
From Well creak to Ramſey lode —	20
Whittleſey dike — — —	9
The Forty-foot drain — —	10
The Old Bedford — — —	21
The New Bedford — —	21
Swaſey bank — — —	3
Stoke river bank — —	9
Brandon river bank — —	10
Mildenhall bank — —	10
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" Mr. Knowles, and Mr. Cole, being further examined, ſaid, " That the mills have been the cauſe of almoſt the deſtruction of the country."

" Mr. Hogard being aſked, " Whether he conceived it to be neceſſary to embank all the rivers in the level;" he ſaid, " He did; and that he had made an eſtimate of the whole expence." And being aſked, " Whether, if the rivers were imbanked, it would be neceſſary to have drains to convey the water into them;" he ſaid, " It certainly would, but whether thoſe are works to be done by the corporation, or particular land-owners, he did not know." And being aſked, " What would be the expence;" he ſaid, " His eſtimate amounts to one hundred and eighty thouſand pounds including the ſum of twenty-eight thouſand pounds for making Kinderly's cut; that, if the rivers were imbanked, the floods might riſe higher in them than they do now, but they would run off ſooner; that, if the banks were to be calculated merely for the uſe of the navigation, and not to keep out the floods, they might be made at leſs expence; but that ſuch banks would certainly be ſoon waſhed away." Being aſked, " What he thought would be the conſequence to the level, if the great river banks were to be loſt;" ſaid, " The low-lands would be drowned, and the navigation loſt." And he then delivered in to your committee, eſtimates of the expence of executing the works propoſed to be done in the middle and ſouth levels, being part of the Bedford great level; and alſo an eſtimate of the expence of deepening the New Bedford or Hundred-Foot River, and repairing the ſouth bank thereof, from Hermitage to Denver ſluice; and likewiſe a plan of the intended works, all ſigned by himſelf. And being aſked, " Whether he thought Denver ſluice an obſtruction to the paſſage of the waters of the ſouth level; he ſaid,

ſaid, "He did not; that he could not tell how low the ancient bottom of that ſluice was, but that it is now lower than the bed of the river; that he judged ſo from having ſeen a great many roots of trees dragged out of the Ouſe above the ſluice, which appeared to him as if they had grown upon the bottom of the river."

Mr. Hogard being further examined ſaid, "That, if all the works of the great level ſhould be ſuffered to go to decay totally, he apprehends, the expence neceſſary to recover them would be a great deal more than is neceſſary to preſerve them; he ſuppoſed, ten times as much, ſpeaking of the middle and ſouth levels only."

Mr. Cole being aſked, "What he had obſerved in the conduct of the gentlemen who compoſe the Bedford Level Corporation, in diſcharge of their duty as truſtees for that level;" he ſaid, "It is a truſt of a great deal of buſineſs, and conſequently great trouble; that the execution of it is attended with expence to the truſtees; and from the time he had known any thing of the matter, they have diſcharged it with the greateſt fidelity, juſtice and attention; when he went to the April meeting in 1773, he paſſed through a country almoſt overflowed, from Cambridge to Ely, and found in general, from the converſation he had with people who came to the latter place to attend the buſineſs of that meeting, that nothing could equal the general diſtreſs of the country; that he found the receiver general had exhauſted all the revenues in his hands; and that there were conſiderable outſtanding debts unprovided for; that the ſtreets were crouded with labourers ſoliciting the payment of their wages, for the maintenance of their families; that it was the general

opinion of the country, that, from the firſt of the undertaking to the 15th year of king Charles II. not leſs than four hundred thouſand pounds was expended; that from the 15th of Charles II. to the year 1776, the expences of the Corporation on all the three levels, had amounted to at leaſt five hundred thouſand pounds, beſides which, they have contracted debts on account of the middle and ſouth levels, to the amount of thirty-eight thouſand five hundred pounds." And being aſked, "Whether all the adventure-lands are not anſwerable to their full value for the expence of the drainage;" he ſaid, "The Corporation have, by the act of the 15th of Charles II. a power of taxing them, without limitation, for the ſupport and maintenance of the great level." And being aſked, "Whether all the perſons who have ſigned the petition are owners of free-land;" he ſaid, "He could not ſpeak to all; but that many of them were, and that he does not know of their conſent to the application being ſignified in any other way than by their ſigning the petition."

From theſe, and the depoſitions of nine other corroborating witneſſes, we may readily conclude, "that the drainage and navigation of this vaſt country muſt inevitably be loſt, unleſs the free-lands and commercial intereſt contribute towards the relief of the adventurers."

Mr. Soame Jenyns, in his "Remarks† on the Bill preſented to Parliament" obſerves, "It was the ſaying of a great miniſter, (ſir Robert Walpole) that the landed men of this country were like ſheep who patiently ſubmit to be fleeced in ſilence, while the trading intereſt, like the hog, will not ſuffer a briſtle of theirs

† Printed at Cambridge in 1777.

theirs to be touched without alarming the whole pariſh with an outcry. The truth of this obſervation was never more clearly exemplified, than in the fate of a bill, brought into parliament during the laſt ſeſſions, which through the ignorance and inattention of the proprietors of ſome thouſand acres of land, who would have been ruined by it, would have paſſed quietly through the houſe, had it not been vigorouſly oppoſed by the merchants, apprehenſive that it might affect their intereſts."

Further, "Thus we plainly ſee that this bill is introduced in the name of the adventurers, and under the pretence of their diſtreſs, but is in fact an artful ſcheme of the owners of the free-lands, deſigned to procure a fund ſufficient for draining themſelves by doubling that diſtreſs by a double tax, fixing a perpetual toll on the navigation, and then ſlipping off between them unobſerved, at the trifling expence of ſix-pence an acre for ſeven years only, on their own lands hitherto untaxed; whilſt ſome of the adventure-lands already exhauſted, were to be loaded with ſix or ſeven ſhillings."

Again, "But under their preſent evaſive conſtitution, I am of opinion, they have no right to tax them at all; although they now publicly avow, that it is not only their right but their duty, to exhauſt them to the laſt farthing of their value; which in other words, is telling the adventurers, that they have no property in them.

"The only reſource which appeared, was a toll on the navigation; for this they apply, and apply with juſtice: for as the commerce of the country depends on the preſervation of the banks and rivers, it is ſurely reaſonable, that the navigators, who do

ſo much damage to them, and receive ſo much benefit from them, ſhould contribute their ſhare; but is both unreaſonable, and ineffectual, whilſt thoſe who are principally concerned offer nothing, or next to nothing, themſelves.

"The owners of the free-land may perhaps alledge, that they have done more than their ſhare, by ſubmitting to heavy taxes impoſed on their lands, by many private acts of parliament, for aſſiſting the adventurers, by making banks, and erecting mills, in the ſeparate diſtricts of this great level. To this I anſwer, in a few words; that theſe are private agreements, with which the public has no concern, and that by all theſe acts the adventurers are equally burthened with themſelves, that theſe very mills have choaked up the rivers, and rendered the taſk of the adventurers ſtill more impracticable, that they are clear acknowledgments of their inability, and a manifeſt renunciation of the original bargain.

"Nor will parliament ever conſent to mortgage the trade of eight or ten counties for one or two hundred thouſand pounds, appropriated before-hand to a liſt of works, the expediency of which ſcarce any two able engineers have ever agreed on; and to be placed in the ſame hands, that have already expended double that ſum in vain.

"What then is to be done? Is this extenſive and fertile country, its produce, commerce, and navigation to be given up as loſt and irrecoverable? By no means. Would the owners of the free-lands, the adventurers, and the merchants, all equally intereſted in its preſervation, unite in one ſingle act of parliament, containing the three following clauſes, the whole might be retrieved.

"Be

" Be it enacted firſt, that in conſideration that the original agreement between the owners of the free-lands, and the adventurers, was even at firſt unfair, and now impracticable, the ſaid agreement be declared to be henceforth null and void. Secondly, that a new corporation be conſtituted, conſiſting of the proprietors of the free and adventure-lands indiſcriminately, veſted with all the powers and privileges enjoyed by the preſent body, particularly that of taxing all theſe lands to any extent, which they ſhall judge neceſſary for preſerving the country and navigation; theſe taxes to be impoſed equally on all theſe lands in proportion to their real value, by ſome mode to be fixed upon by mutual agreement of all parties concerned. Thirdly, that a toll be laid on the navigation not exceeding one ſhilling per ton, and that a certain number of traders be admitted into this corporation in proportion to the revenue which ſhall accrue from this toll.

" By theſe regulations, a certain annual income would ariſe of above thirty thouſand pounds; as thus,

	£.	s.	d.
By a tax and half on the 95,000 acres	7577	0	0
By a tax in proportion on the 200,000, at 1s. 6d — —	15,000	0	0
By a toll of 1s. per ton on the navigation — —	10,000	0	0
	32,577	0	0

" This income, without any power to anticipate it by mortgaging, is more than can be expended in theſe works in a year, and fully ſufficient, if well employed, to reſtore this country to a flouriſhing ſtate, and to preſerve it in ſuch to all future ages.

But if the owners of the two hundred thouſand acres ſhall be abſurd enough to reject this propoſal, and ſtill wait for ſalvation from the adventurers, who cannot, and the navigators, who will not drain them, they muſt ſuffer that juſt puniſhment of the Dutch; that is, if they refuſe to work, *they muſt be drowned.*

" The merchants from it would receive equal advantage, becauſe when the rivers are deepened, and the banks made good, their commodities would be carried at leſs expence than at preſent, notwithſtanding the toll, and the navigation will be preſerved, which without it will be entirely loſt."

In conſequence of this eminent gentleman's opinion being made publick, a meeting was held at Ely in November, but nothing concluſive propoſed or agreed to.

Captain Page, and Mr. James Creaſſy, at the requeſt of lord viſcount Townſhend, took a view of the fens, works, and outfall, in the ſummer of 1777.

The noble lord, in an addreſs " To the gentlemen of landed and commercial intereſt in the fens," annexed to the opinions of Capt. Page and Mr. Creaſſy, " thought it right to ſubmit theſe ſheets to your conſideration, for the following reaſons:

" Firſt, becauſe you who are now called upon for ſo large a ſum, and who, from the injudicious application of your former heavy taxes, have derived ſo little benefit.

" Another motive which induces me to communicate theſe obſervations to you is, becauſe the gentleman who wrote the firſt is not only allowed to be a man

man of ſcience, and whoſe abilities have been proved by his ſucceſs in the moſt difficult undertakings of this nature; but his impartiality may be relied on, as he neither is, nor would be, a ſharer in the execution of what he recommends. The other little treatiſe is the work of a perſon who has been employed with ſucceſs in the fens; and, being on the point of embarking for the Eaſt-Indies, can have no other view than aſſiſting the public on this occaſion with his beſt opinion.

"The ſyſtems of theſe gentlemen do not entirely coincide: None of you are rivetted to any propoſition; you will conſider them both; each may contain much uſeful matter, and you will adopt what is beſt."

Speaking of the works propoſed by the bill, "I will preſume that the united and reciprocal intereſts of the landholder and the merchant will oppoſe ſuch a project with equal firmneſs and candour."

Of the levels and ſections of the Ouſe, "I mean neither to charge Mr. Elſtobb with any neglect, or the members of the corporation with any ſiniſter views; yet, ſurely, the hiſtory of fen-government, for many years paſt in the hands of delegates, undertakers, and a ſpecies of men ſtiled engineers, and the example of ſo many families impoveriſhed by their blunders and jobs, are ſufficient to authoriſe us to be extremely circumſpect upon new propoſitions and extenſive powers; without entertaining the leaſt ſuſpicion injurious to the gentlemen of influence in the corporation."

To a liſt of "ill-placed, ill-proportioned, ſtupendous, tottering conſtructions," his lordſhip adds,

" and above all that long-noted nuiſance, the Denver Sluice, (that ÆRA OF THE FENS) which like an ill-ſhapen gigantic bully, poſted in the avenue of a public place, inſults the public merely becauſe no one has courage to remove him.

" The drainage cannot be abandoned, and the river loſt, without ſuch obſtacles and expence falling on the trade, that in ſuch caſe the trade of Lynn would hardly wiſh to trample under foot the feeble fence of the poor occupier of land, which protects his precarious crop and ſtarving family againſt a ſudden inundation, without paying a fair proportion for the advantages the trade would receive."

" It is certain (ſays lord Townſhend) the country is in a moſt deplorable ſtate; the cauſes are obvious. There can be little doubt but you have about thirty feet fall from the junction of the Grant and the Ouſe to Lynn; poſſibly the remedy may be as clear and the means as certain."

Extracts from " Obſervations by Capt. Page."

Of the Thames, " Nothing further being required, as nature has been only aſſiſted; whereas, in the fens, nothing has been done that does not tend to obſtruct her in the moſt complete manner.

" Weſterdyke, a Dutchman of experience, gave his opinion, " That the unreſtrained overflowings of the rivers was the principal cauſe of the ſurrounding this level; AND THIS BEING APPARENTLY THE DISEASE, therefore the confining of theſe rivers within ſufficient banks muſt conſequently in reaſon be the cure."

" Lord

" Lord Gorges, then ſurveyor-general of the fens, obſerved, that " The better way of draining the ſouth level (for whoſe benefit alone ſluices were intended) is by banks, without any ſluices at all at Denver; according to the certain rules of draining, which is to imbank all rivers and brook-waters, and never to put ſluices upon ſuch waters as have a continual body to preſerve their channels or outfalls from ſilting up by tides."

" We find the reverſe of theſe rules followed in moſt of the fen-works to the preſent time, which conform exactly to the project of ſir C. Vermuyden.

" Since that period, (Denver ſluice, 1651) the whole ſouth level has been in a ſtate of decay, and inevitably muſt be loſt, if ſome proper project for a general drainage ſhould not be adopted. The foundation of it (Denver ſluice) is likewiſe a manifeſt obſtruction, it being many feet above the hanging level of the river.

" The Tong's Drain and Popham's Eau are equally to be objected to, as indeed are all diviſions of great rivers;" and a French author concludes his philoſophical diſquiſition on the courſe of the Rhine, with reſpect to its dangerous diviſions, " It has been " explained, that the bottoms of the three branches " ſilt up from the want of ſufficient velocity in the " ſtream, which ſuffers an accumulation of ſand and " ſoil carried down by the ſudden thaws of ſnow, " and by heavy rains.

" By re-uniting theſe three branches into one " ſtream, the water would acquire a velocity three " times greater than it has in three diviſions.

" By

" By theſe means alſo, the effect of ſcouring out " the bottom would be tripled. This is a ſimple, " true, and efficacious remedy; and will not only " prevent obſtructions in the bed of the river, but " by degrees remove them."

" It may be here obſerved, that whilſt it (Denver ſluice) remains as it is, the ſouth level cannot be benefited by any works the corporation may undertake: ſo as to be what it originally was, no great benefit is to be expected.

" Could the obſtructions be removed, the water in the river might be lower'd, as the channel, by being deep, would admit of it without injury to the navigatian, which otherwiſe it would put a total ſtop to. This is clear from the ſtate of the river in July, as at that time there was not water enough a few hundred yards above the Denver ſluice to float the barges; notwithſtanding which, the middle fen was then totally drowned. There is the greateſt reaſon to expect (nay, it ſeems to be certain) that the embankment of the rivers would alone anſwer every deſirable end.

" The river from Lynn to Littleport is pretty well embanked (excepting the improper width at Germains); but higher up, towards Ely, it is totally neglected; there every kind of obſtruction to the running of the water is ſuffered to remain, and the breadth in many places is twenty times, at leaſt, greater than it ought to be. From Ely to the Hermitage, near Erith, it is in as bad a ſtate; and is equally ſo oppoſite Soham Mere; it is the ſame a conſiderable way up the Grant.

" It

CASTLE-ACRE MONASTERY.



Marcus Armstrong, del.

Royce, Sculp.t

To Thomas Millington Esq.r this Plate

"It has always been agreed, that the outfall of the river Ouſe ſhould be firſt conſidered, as from its preſent bad ſtate, any works higher up in the country would be uſeleſs."

Of Kinderly's cut, "It is not eaſy for any one to aſſert poſitively that this work will anſwer; the corporation are led to hope that it will, becauſe a ſimilar thing has been done at Wiſbech, and found beneficial to the drainage of that country. We may infer from it, that, provided the cut at Lynn can be made to bear the ſame proportion to the Ouſe, as the other does to the Wiſbech river, that it MAY IN SUCH CASE anſwer as well. The new cut at Wiſbech is pretty near the ſame dimenſions that is the channel of the old river; it therefore was only giving the water a new direction, equal to what had been quitted, and of courſe it was reaſonable that it ſhould anſwer.

"Whereas the width of the preſent outfall at Lynn, at the narroweſt place, being near three hundred yards, we ought, agreeable to what nature will require, to give at leaſt the ſame width to the lower end of the propoſed cut; and the upper part of it ſhould be equal to the old channel at Germains bridge: then it may be ſafe to make it, but not otherwiſe.

"It will be of very little uſe, if, at the ſame time, they do not execute works that may reſtore proper levels to the other parts, quite to the Highlands beyond Ely; as they cannot take the water from the rivers, and leave them navigable, without at the ſame time making them deeper; and that cannot be done by what is propoſed in the intended act.

"After

"After the proviſion for the outfall, it is propoſed by the act, that St. John's Eau is to be opened; alſo a parallel drain to be made for the waſte way by the old Bedford river, and a cut by Mr. Savory's land into Well-creek; which are works of little conſequence, in the idea of a plan of a GENERAL DRAINAGE.

"The bad conſtruction of Denver ſluice ſhould have been attended to in this act; the moſt inexperienced engineer in the king's ſervice would be able to give the corporation a plan of a proper ſluice (if they muſt have one there) that would anſwer every purpoſe intended by the preſent, and be without any of its objections,

"Could the proprietors of the fens once diveſt themſelves of their local ideas and intereſts upon draining, and concur in a *general plan* formed on the ſame principles laid down in the embankment of that river, (Thames) they would ſoon find the inutility of either ſluices, ſlakers, or windmills, towards the drainage of their country."

Extracts from "The Report and Opinion of Mr. James Creaſſy."

"I am of opinion, that the attempting to run the waters off the low lands in the ſame canal or river with thoſe that flow from the high country in time of floods, is inconſiſtent with, and contrary both to reaſon and experience.

"The water in the river Ouſe, and ſeveral other rivers, were conſiderably higher than the ſurface of many thouſand acres of low lands at the time I viewed

ed the levels, which was in the middle of July, particularly near the high country; and therefore thoſe lands that lie remote from the outfall, become almoſt perpetually drowned.

" It muſt appear demonſtrative, that two or more rivers may be made parallel to each other, and yet have different falls in a given diſtance: and ſtill theſe rivers may be united, and the waters run together at a given point.

" It is evident, that the waters coming from the high country (which I conceive to be nineteen parts out of twenty of all the waters that drown the low lands in queſtion) may, if they are confined in their courſes by ſtrong banks, be higher by ſeveral feet than the low lands adjoining, and yet thoſe lands may be well drained, by having drains cut parallel to the ſaid rivers, and carrying the low-land waters down to a lower part of the outfall, without letting them communicate at all with thoſe coming from the high lands, till the inclined plain formed by the running of the high-land waters is lower than the low lands to be drained.

" The plan that I would recommend for the more effectual draining of the abovementioned part of the country, is, firſt, to build two ſluices a little above Lynn, one on each ſide the river Ouſe; to be each ſixty feet clear water-way, and the floors thereof to be five feet below low-water mark at Lynn, with pointing doors to ſtem the tides, and to be erected at ſuch points of the river, as that both ebb and flood may paſs cloſe by their mouths, in order to ſcour away the ſilt, &c. and keep the paſſage clean.

" I re-

" I recommend a drain to be cut from the ſluice of the weſt ſide parallel to the river Ouſe, up to Salter's Lode, eighty feet at the top, and to ſlope a foot and a half on each ſide for every foot in depth, and to be made as deep at the lower end as the floor of the ſluice, and to lay half the earth ariſing therefrom on the bank of the Ouſe. and the remainder on the oppoſite ſide the drain in bank faſhion, and to cut a drain from the ſluice on the eaſt ſide, in as ſtraight a direction as the nature of the country will admit of, to the lower end of St. John's Eau, and to ſcour out the ſaid St. John's Eau, and cut from the upper end of the ſame to Stoke river, parallel to the Ouſe, of the dimenſions and in the ſame manner as the drain recommended on the weſt ſide.

" I alſo recommend a drain to be cut parallel to the river Ouſe, on the eaſt ſide, from the ſaid Stoke river to the Grant or Cambridge river, and from thence up the ſide of the ſaid river to the high-lands, forty feet wide at top, and to ſlope a foot and an half on each ſide for every foot in depth, and to be ſeven feet deep at the upper end, and the bottom to form a regular declivity from thence to the ſea ſluice, recommended to be built near Lynn; all the earth ariſing from the ſaid drain, to be applied in heightening and ſtrengthening the bank of the Ouſe and Grant," &c.

" I recommend a ſunken tunnel to be laid under the river Ouſe, immediately above Denver ſluice, ſo that all the ſocage and downfall waters of the fens lying between the Hundred-Foot river and the Ouſe may paſs freely down the ſide drain to Lynn, without communicating with the high-land waters.

" The

" The next thing I recommend is, to collect all the high-land waters that can poſſibly be collected, by cutting catch-water drains along the ſkirt of the high lands, but high enough up to diſcharge part of the waters into one imbanked river, and part into another, ſo that no high-land waters be ſuffered to flow into the fens and low grounds to be drained."

There are many other works which Mr. Creaſſy recommends, the whole expence of which muſt exceed any that has hitherto been *recommended*. He concludes, " Theſe are the great works which I conceive neceſſary towards compleating a general drainage of this extenſive and fruitful country. There are ſeveral other works of an inferior kind needful; but I look upon thoſe as ſecondary, and of a local and private nature.

" I am perſuaded the works here recommended will be executed at leſs expence than thoſe of ſcouring and widening, deepening and embanking, the ſeveral rivers that bring down the flood waters.

" The next thing is, the country will be rendered dry as the works advance upwards, and as ſuch will become cultivated and improved, and the inhabitants will be ſatisfied of the utility of the undertaking, and proſecute it with more vigour.

" Another thing is, the navigation and trade of Lynn, &c. will be prodigiouſly increaſed by having ſo many more thouſand acres of land cultivated and inhabited, that now is, comparatively ſpeaking, a loſt and undone country.

" I therefore would humbly adviſe the noblemen and gentlemen intereſted in draining the middle and ſouth

ſouth levels of the fens, to take *experience* for their future guide, and no longer depend upon the fallacious and ill-grounded reports of ſelf-intereſted and deſigning men, whoſe buſineſs has ever been to multiply the difficulties of a GENERAL DRAINAGE."

The Rev. Mr. Thomas Stona, in an addreſs "To the Gentlemen of the Corporation of Bedford Level," dated April 8, 1776, endeavours, by a comparative view of the reports and opinions of able engineers, to prove that the cut propoſed by Mr. Nath. Kinderley, in 1751, would not anſwer the deſign "for making and maintaining a ſufficient outfall to ſea near Lynn-Regis."

Mr. Kinderley, in his own words, "Not only to confine the river by jetties againſt the town, but to confine it upwards likewiſe, by caſting up a new river or channel for it two hundred feet wide, (which is as wide as it is at Germains) and to be as deep as it is at Lynn: and that in a ſtraight line from half a mile below Germains, viz. at a place called Eau Brink, to half a mile above Lynn, which would be a courſe of but two miles in length, and ſo to deſert the preſent broad, unconfined, ſhallow, and crooked courſe (which the river now takes) of between ſix and ſeven miles in length, and near one in breadth, always ſhifting amongſt the broad ſands, for which reaſon it can get no depth, and by this means four miles of its preſent crooked courſe would be cut off."†

The

† Mr. Kinderley had another propoſal for draining the fens and preſerving the navigation of Lynn, Wiſbech, Spalding, &c. "by bringing the Wiſbech river in a new cut near St. Andrew's Walpole, through Marſhland, to the Lynn river, and by

The effects that this plan would have upon navigation and drainage are theſe, (as the author expected)

" The channel would be ſhorter, deeper, and ſafer; the indraught of the tide would be quickened, and the ebb returning in the flood channel with greater velocity, would prevent any lodgment of the ſoil. The fall of the fen water would be ſeven feet more than at preſent, and the paſſage of the waters to ſea be quicker. The expence of engines would be prevented. The waters thus drawn off under the ſurface, they might have earth near to make good their banks, and the Hundred-Foot water would be prevented from returning at Denver."

Upon the inefficacy of this ſcheme Mr. Stona adduces many convincing reaſons.—Tides, at the equinoxes and by certain winds, which riſe twenty-ſix feet and upwards at common ſtaith, muſt paſs through this channel. — By deſerting the preſent courſe of the river from Eau-brink to the World's-end, Barn's gool, Knight's gool, Tilney gool, and Clenchwarton gool muſt be ſtopped.

The ſame author (on the principles of navigation and drainage) remarks on the effects produced by the ſeveral works of the Bedford Level Corporation—Of Denver ſluice—Of ancient and modern drainage—Of the equity of paying tonage in lieu of the injury done to the banks. " Engineers, ſays he,

h indeed

by carrying thoſe rivers in a cut from the Crutch through Wooton and Wolferton marſhes into the deeps of Lynn channel, over-againſt Snettiſham, and by a dam to be made croſs the river's mouth, from the Crutch to the weſt point." The money to be raiſed by a fen lottery.

indeed may have uncommon ſenſe, and much reſpect is due to it; but able engineers, like able phyſicians, will aſſiſt nature, but not obſtruct her.

"If they offend this rule, we have a right to ſuſpect them of quackery; who endeavour to make you worſe, that they may take the more fees."

In 1775 and 76, Mr. William Elſtobb was employed by the commiſſioners to take the levels of the Ouſe from Clay-hill, above Ely, to the bar-beacon in Lynn channel.

	Diſtance. M. F.	Fall. F. I.
Denver ſluice to German's bridge	9 3	5 6
German's bridge to Lynn -	6 7	7 9
Lynn to the bar-beacon -	5 3	8 0

The whole diſtance from Denver ſluice to the bar-beacon being twenty-one miles five furlongs, and the fall twenty-one feet three inches, the proportional average is nearly twelve inches in each mile: "But, ſays Mr. John Golborne, in his report publiſhed Dec. 12, 1777, finding that no confidence could be placed in theſe levels, I applied to Mr. Whitworth, who levelled from the crutch-beacon to Denver ſluice, from whence there was a fall of ſix feet ſeven inches, viz. One foot fall from Denver ſluice to Eau-brink, near eleven miles; and from thence to above Lynn, nearly in the line as formerly propoſed by Mr. Kinderly, four feet nine inches in ſpring tides; which in the courſe of this river is ſix miles, but in a ſtrait line over the land, two miles and three quarters, and from thence to the crutch-beacon (being three miles) ten inches fall.

"In

"In order therefore to give the utmoſt relief to theſe levels, it will be neceſſary to cut a new channel through the marſhes, two miles and three quarters long, from Eau-brink to half a mile above Lynn, to form a bank on each ſide of it with proper forelands, and to turn the river down this channel by a dam made over the old one; and there being a fall of four feet nine inches in that diſtance, the current will run with great velocity, and ſoon grind down a deep channel; and the river upwards being already very deep, the ſurface of low water will be lowered at leaſt four feet at Salter's lode ſluice, at Old Bedford ſluice, at Denver ſluice, and at the mouth of the New Bedford river. This cannot fail to give immediate relief to both theſe levels, and theſe four feet will be inſtantly felt in middle fen, in Ramſey, and in Whittleſey."

By Mr. Elſtobb's line of levels, we find a fall of five feet ſix inches, in nine miles three furlongs: Mr. Golborne, on the ſame line, and one mile five furlongs below, makes the fall only *one* foot in eleven miles. Mr. Elſtobb aſſerts, that Mr. Golborne has the low-water mark at Denver ſluice three feet *higher* than the wharf at Peterborough bridge; Mr. Golborne, on the contrary, affirms it to be ſix feet ten inches *lower*. Were the obſervations of theſe gentlemen within a trifling difference of each other, a medium might be drawn to ſatisfaction, but in ſo *wide* a matter, no concluſion can be made. Ignorance, or deceit, may be demonſtrated to a mathematical certainty in almoſt every buſineſs of the corporation, where engineers have been employed. Truth obliges us to make this remark.

Mr. Elſtobb has publiſhed an elaborate defence of his ſection of the Ouſe, &c. Amongſt a variety of

pro's and con's, *he* proves the fall from Peterborough to Denver ſluice to be at leaſt eight feet.

The Rev. Mr. Thomas Stona alſo publiſhed "Remarks upon the Report of Mr. John Golborne, Engineer;" in which, amongſt many ingenious and incontrovertible remarks, he ſays:

"The inſtance you produce to ſhow that no confidence can be placed in Mr. Elſtobb's level of the Ouſe, apparently militates againſt this very level taken by Mr. Whitworth,"

An eſtimate of the charge of cutting a new channel from near Eau Brink, to the ſouth end of Lynn, ſeven hundred and twenty-ſix rods in length, two hundred feet wide at the top, ten feet deep, with a foreland on each ſide of the channel one hundred and twenty feet in breadth with banks, one hundred feet in the ſeat, forty feet at the top, and ten feet high.

	£.	s.	d.
To ſpade and barrow work at the cut	16335	0	0
To a dam croſs the river near Eau Brink	1500	0	0
To horſe-milling and leeking the work	700	0	0
To purchaſe of land for the cut	3300	0	0
To ditto for the cover —	3300	0	0
To flagging the banks —	726	0	0
To ſuperintending the work —	300	0	0
—	26126	0	0

Per contra Cr.

To the preſent courſe of the river, which is to ſilt up and become good land (as by Mr. Golborne's report) conſiſting of two thouſand acres, or nearly, at 17s. per acre (the common price of good marſh land) at 20 years purchaſe, is	34000	0	0

To the Board of Adventurers (if they ſhould be inclined to purſue this plan) the merchant and land-owner will ſay, "Gentlemen, why will you purſue "a plan thus (apparently) pregnant with dangers "that human experience cannot foreſee, and which "human art, perhaps, may not be able to reſiſt, "when a removal of the obſtructions in the preſent "channel will anſwer the end of drainage."

An Abſtract of ſuch Statutes as have been made for avoiding all annoyances and obſtructions in navigable Rivers.

June 19, 1215. Magna Charta, cap. 23, provides, That all wears from thenceforth ſhall be utterly put down thro' all England, but only by the ſea coaſts.

1352. 25 Ed. 3. cap. 4. ſets forth, That whereas the common paſſages of boats and ſhips in the great rivers of England be oftentimes annoyed by inhanſing gores, wears, ſtakes, &c. in great damage of the people; it is eſtabliſhed, the ſame ſhall be cut and utterly pulled down, without being renewed. And that writs be ſent to the ſheriffs to do execution.

1372. 45 Ed. 3. cap. 2. Reciting the ſtatute laſt-mentioned; and that ſhips and boats were diſturbed, that they could not paſs as they were wont. And at the grievous complaint of the Commons, by their petition, that the ſame ſtatute was not executed nor kept. It is eſtabliſhed, that the ſame ſtatute ſhall be kept. Joining thereto—That if any ſuch annoyance be done, it ſhall be pulled down, &c. And he that ſhall repair the ſame, incur one hundred marks penalty.

1398. 21 Rich. 2. cap. 19. The ſame ſtatutes laſt above-mentioned, are recited, and again confirmed.

1399. 1 Hen. 4. cap. 12. The ſame ſtatutes are again recited and confirmed in all points; joining thereto

thereto) That commiſſioners ſhall be made to ſubſtitute perſons to ſurvey and keep the great rivers, and correct and pull down, and amend the defaults, and to hear and determine, and make decrees touching the ſame.

1403. 4 Hen. 4. cap. 11. Reciting the ſad miſchiefs whereby the common paſſage of ſhips and boats is diſturbed: It is enacted, That the former ſtatutes be holden and kept, and put in due execution, Joining to the ſame, That the commiſſioners ſhall enquire thereof, and puniſh offenders by fines, at their diſcretions.

1473. 12 Ed. 4. cap. 7. ſets forth, That the former ſtatutes were made for the great wealth of the land, in avoiding the ſtraightneſs of all rivers, ſo that ſhips and boats might have in them their large and free paſſage. That ſuch annoyances in rivers are contrary to Magna Charta, upon which the great ſentence and apoſtolic curſe was pronounced againſt the breakers of the ſame. And reciting the whole tenors of all the ſaid former ſtatutes. And that contrary to theſe ſtatutes, in diſturbance of the paſſage of ſhips, barges, boats, and other veſſels, divers locks, wears, ſtakes, flood-gates, and diſturbances were daily inlarged, to the great damage of the king and his people. It is ordained, That all the ſaid former ſtatutes ſhall be duly obſerved and kept, joining thereto other great penalties to the king and informer.

1532. 23 Hen. 8. cap. 5. Repeating the damages and loſſes by gates, flood-gates, locks, and other impediments and annoyances on rivers, ſtreams, and floods, whereby the paſſage of boats and ſhips be letted and interrupted. Directs the form of the general commiſſion of ſewers, whereby the commiſſioners have power to cauſe ſuch annoyances and impediments

ments to be corrected, put down or reformed, according to the afore-mentioned ſtatutes. And to proſtrate and overthrow the ſame, with large powers to make laws and ordinances, and compel obedience thereunto: Reviving and confirming all the ſaid former ſtatutes in all points.

1550. 3 Edw. 6. cap. 8. The laſt-mentioned and former ſtatutes confirmed and made perpetual.

1601. 43 Eliz. cap. 11. An act paſſed for draining great part of this level, wherein proviſion was made that it ſhould not extend to the draining any lands, whereby, or by means whereof, any of the havens or ports of this realm may in any ſort be annoyed, impaired or hindered, nor any grounds in ſix miles of Lynn.

Upon the whole, we (the Editors of the Hiſtory of Norfolk) have diſcharged the duty we owe the public on this ſubject with that candour and impartial retroſpect, a matter of ſo much importance and intricacy requires. We have already obſerved, that the opinions of thoſe who have wrote, are as *oppoſite* in the more eſſential points in queſtion, as if *purpoſely* meant to contradict each other, and confound the Commiſſioners. If a "ſcale of talents" could be formed, and the integrity of the parties aſcertained, ſome harmony might be produced; but whilſt the country continues to be kept under an inundation of *pro* and *con*, no meaſure, either for the preſervation or improvement of the landed and commercial intereſts, can be adapted.

*** A correct map of the Great Bedford Level is ſubjoined to theſe enquiries.

Having

Having finiſhed our general deſcription of Freebridge Lynn and Marſhland, and of the works on the Bedford Levels, we now proceed to the ſeveral pariſhes in this hundred and half, which will be found arranged in alphabetical order, as follows:

FREEBRIDGE LYNN.

Anmer
Appleton
Aſhwicken
Babingley
Bawſey
Bilney, Weſt
Caſtle-acre
Caſtle-Riſing
Congham
Derſingham
Flitcham
Gayton
Gayton Thorpe
Gaywood
Grimſton
Harpley
Hillington
Lynn-Regis
Maſſingham, Great
Maſſingham, Little
Middleton
Mintling
Newton, Weſt
Pentney
Roydon
Runcton, North
Sandringham
Setchy
South Lynn
Walton, Eaſt
Weſt-acre
Winch, Eaſt
Winch, Weſt
Wolferton
Wooton, North
Wooton, South

FREEBRIDGE MARSHLAND.

Clenchwarton
Emneth
Iſlington
Lynn, Weſt
Terrington St. Clement
Terrington St. John
Tilney All Saints
Tilney St. Laurence
Walpole St. Andrew
Walpole St. Peter
Walſoken
Walton, Weſt
Wiggenhall St. Germain
Wiggenhall St. Mary
Wiggenhall St. M. Magdalen

ANMER, is ſituated about two miles weſt of Houghton hall and plantations, four miles ſouth-eaſt from Snettiſham, and eleven miles north-eaſt from Lynn.

This village has been greatly improved, and ornamented with different plantations, by James Coldham, eſq. the preſent lord of the manor, whoſe ſeat is in this town, and who generally reſides here, a circumſtance of great advantage to the country round him, being an active and judicious magiſtrate, and ever ready to execute the duties of that office, which if properly attended to, entitles a country gentleman to the honour, the applauſe, the thanks of the public. An active, intelligent juſtice of the peace is one of the moſt uſeful members of ſociety, who gives up his time to the benefit of his country, and has no reward but that of conſcious virtue, and a ſecret ſatisfaction of doing good; a reward indeed greatly above all pecuniary compenſations, though not ſought after in this degenerate age with the ſame avidity. This attention as a magiſtrate is among the many virtues of Mr. Coldham, which has acquired him that much reſpected character he has ſo long born in this county.

There are two manors in this town, Anmere-hall manor, and Bereford manor.

ANMERE HALL. This manor in the reign of Edward I. came into the family of the Calthorpes. Sir Walter de Calthorpe was lord in 1284, and in 1303 ſir William de Calthorpe, knight, preſented as lord and patron to the church of Anmer; and in the 5th of Edward III. a fine was levied, whereby it was ſettled by ſir William de Calthorpe of Burnham, on himſelf for life, remainder to ſir Walter

his ſon, and Alice his wife in tail, after to Oliver and his other ſons; and ſir Walter dying *ſans* iſſue, it deſcended to ſir Oliver Calthorpe, brother of ſir Walter, who preſented to the church in 1374: this ſir Oliver built on the ſouth ſide of this church, a chapel, wherein he founded a chauntry, endowing it with forty-eight acres of land in the town of Anmer, appointing one of the canons of the priory of Flitcham to officiate therein, and to pray for the ſouls of his anceſtors and his own; and the prior of Flitcham had a patent for it in the 45th of Edward III.

In 1420 the king preſented to this church, on account of the minority of John, ſon of ſir William Calthorpe; in 1432 William Calthorpe, eſq. and in 1552 Elizabeth Parker, widow, which Elizabeth was daughter and heir of ſir Philip Calthorpe, and married ſir Henry Parker, knight of the bath, of Erwarton in Suffolk, who being afterwards married to William Wodehouſe, eſq. they preſented to this rectory in 1534, and 1560; and on his death to Drue Drury, eſq. and they preſented in 1567. In the 23d of Elizabeth ſir Philip Parker had livery of it.

After this, Thomas Norris was lord, and preſented in 1624, and Cuthbert Norris, eſq. in 1678, who conveyed it to the Coldhams; James Coldham, eſq. was lord in 1705, and in this family it remains, James Coldham, eſq. being the preſent lord.

At the embodying of the militia in the late war, and their being called out into different counties, Mr. Coldham ſerved as captain in the weſtern battalion of the militia for the county of Norfolk, which regiment had the honour of being firſt ordered out, upon

upon their own petition, and marched down to Hilſea barracks near Portſmouth. As the regiment paſſed through Hyde Park, it was reviewed by the late king and his preſent majeſty, who were pleaſed to expreſs their approbation of the warlike appearance of the officers and men, and of their ſpirit in deſiring to be employed againſt the common enemy, then threatening an invaſion upon this kingdom, having fitted out a great naval force under the command of M. de Conflans at Breſt, and lined their coaſts near Quiberon Bay with thirty thouſand troops, under the command of the duke d'Aguillon, ready for embarkation. Theſe great preparations were ſoon after happily counteracted, under the bleſſing of providence, by the bravery of ſir Edward Hawke, and many of the capital ſhips of France taken, ſunk, and deſtroyed, in Quiberon Bay near Belleiſle, in November 1759. The militia of Norfolk, and of moſt of the counties in England, ſtill continued embodied and encamped during the remainder of that glorious war, when Engliſh colours were ſeen flying, triumphantly flying in every quarter of the known world.

Bereford Manor. This manor in the reign of Edward I. was in John de Bereford and ſir Walter de Calthorpe.

Afterwards, in 1496, Henry L'Eſtrange of Hunſtanton, died ſeiſed of it, as appears by his will; and in the 30th of Henry VIII. by a fine between ſir Thomas L'Eſtrange, knt. John Wodehouſe, of Horsford, gent. and Cicilia his wife, Francis Bedingfield, and Elena his wife, it was conveyed to ſir Thomas, with ten meſſuages, and lands in Anmer, Derſingham, &c. and in the following year ſir Thomas, and his lady Ann, conveyed it to Tho-

mas Houghton, clerk, and Thomas Houghton died lord in the 35th of that king; and Robert Houghton was then found to be his brother and heir; and George Houghton in 1570 was lord: after this, it came to the Norris's, and was joined to their other lordſhip, and ſo to the Coldhams, in which family it remains at preſent.

The church of Anmer is dedicated to St. Mary. The Rev. Charles Buckle is the preſent rector.

APPLETON. Probably ſo called from Aba, who held this manor under Stigand archbiſhop of Canterbury, and ton or tun, a town.

After different proprietors, the tradition of which is uncertain, it deſcended in 1571 to the Paſtons.

In 1571 Clement Paſton enjoyed it, the famous ſea captain who built Oxnead-hall, lately the ſeat of the earl of Yarmouth; he was fourth ſon of ſir William Paſton, of Paſton in Norfolk, by Bridget his wife, daughter of ſir Henry Heydon: Clement left it by will to ſir Edward Paſton, and died in 1597; ſir Edward was his nephew, ſon of ſir Thomas Paſton, (fifth ſon of ſir William Paſton aforeſaid) and his lady Agnes, daughter and heir of ſir John Leigh, of Addington in Surry, knight. This ſir Edward built Appleton-hall, and married Margaret, daughter of Henry Berney, eſq. of Reedham in Norfolk, by whom he had Thomas, his eldeſt ſon, from whom the Paſtons of Barningham in Norfolk are deſcended. William, his ſecond ſon, had this manor, and married Agnes, daughter and coheir of William Everard, of Lyngſtead in Suffolk, eſq. by whom he had William his ſon, lord of Appleton in 1664, who by Mary his wife, daughter of James

James Lawſon, of Brough in Yorkſhire, had William Paſton, of Appleton, eſq. In this family it remains at preſent, and Wm. Paſton, eſq. of Houghton in the county of Wilts, is the preſent lord.

The ſeat of this family was burnt to the ground in 1707, and the family was in great danger of being burnt in their beds, if a ſhepherd had not wakened them: on this they removed to Houghton in Wiltſhire, and in 1720 John Paſton, eſq. reſided there, and was lord alſo of that place. The hall ſeems to have been built in 1596, that date being on the gatehouſe, or lodge leading to it.

Another lordſhip in this village of Appleton, in proceſs of time and after many unknown proprietors, deſcended and was held by the Cobbes of Sandringham; from the Cobbes it came to James Hoſte, eſq. and ſo to Henry Corniſh Henley, eſq. by marriage with Suſan, daughter and ſole heireſs of the ſaid James Hoſte. On the deceaſe of Henry Corniſh Henley it reverted back to his widow, the preſent Mrs. Henley of Sandringham.

This town now conſiſting of a few houſes only, is in ſome meaſure by cuſtom united with the pariſh of Flitcham, to which it adjoins; all aſſeſſments and pariſh rates and duties running in the name of Flitcham cum Appleton. The church is in ruins.

At the eaſt end lies a graveſtone, *In memory of Frances, widow of Edward Paſton, of B——, Eſq; who died Feb.* 15, 1665, *daughter to Sir John Sydenham, of Brympton in Somerſetſhire.* On another, *Agnes Paſton, Gulielmi Everard, de Linſtead, filia, vidua Gulielmi Paſton, armig. mundanis vere vidua, in charitate clara. obt.* xi. *die Apr. A. D.* 1676, *ætat ſuæ* 73.

On a third, *Hic requieſcit corpus Tho. Paſton, militis, obt. apud Congham.*

WYKEN, alias ASHWYKEN, LESIATE, and HOLT. In Wyken were two lordſhips granted by the Conqueror to two different families.

Theſe two lordſhips alſo extended into two little adjoining towns, Leſiate and Holt; Leſiate is ſtill a diſtant ſeparate pariſh, and has a church belonging to it, but Holt, or Holthouſe, has none, and is now eſteemed as part of the pariſh of Leſiate.

In the 6th year of Henry III. Hugh de Noiun or Nugun, was lord of Wyke, Leſiate and Holt; and conveyed part of the ſaid townſhips, by fine, to Odo, abbot of Caen in Normandy, lord of the manor of Wells, or Wells priory in Geyton, reſerving to himſelf, and his men of Wyke, common of paſture in the town of Holt.

The priory of Wells, in Geyton, appears alſo to have a lordſhip here. This was afterwards granted, on the diſſolution of the priories *alien*, together with that priory, to John Wodehouſe, eſq. who had the rent of aſſize in Leſiate and Holt, as lord, in the 9th year of king Henry VI.

After this John Jenkin, Gent. conveyed, by fine, in the 28th of Henry VIII. the third part of the manor of Gloſthorpe, with lands in Wyken, Leſiate, Holt, Geyton, &c. to Thomas Thoreſby, eſq. and the ſaid Thoreſby died ſeiſed of the manor of Aſhwyken, with its appurtenances, in the 36th of Henry VIII. The Thoreſby's ſeem to have lived here at this time. Edmund Thoreſby, eſq. ſon of Thomas, by his laſt will, dated Dec. 20, 1547, deſires to be buried

buried in the church of Aſhwyken, appoints Urſula his wife executrix, and mentions his brother Francis Thoreſby, eſq. proved January 9 following.

In the beginning of queen Elizabeth's reign, Thomas Thoreſby, eſq. had livery of the manors of Aſhwyken, Bawſey, Gloſthorpe, &c. being ſon and heir of Edmund. In this family it remained till about the year 1600, when Francis Thoreſby, eſq. of Gaywood, ſold it to John Drury, eſq. who in 1675 preſented to the rectory as lord.

The ſaid John Drury, eſq. (a branch of the Drurys of Rougham in Suffolk) married Elizabeth, one of the daughters and coheirs of George Fowler, eſq. of Weeting, and was lord of Holt: from the Drurys it was conveyed to the hon. Roger North, eſq. of Rougham in Norfolk, about the year 1700.

In 1754, George Wright, eſq. died ſeiſed of the manors of Aſhwyken, Leſiate, Gloſtthorpe and Holt, with the advowſon of Aſhwyken and Leſiate; and were advertiſed to be ſold by a decree of chancery on Jan. 29, 1754. He was ſon of —— Wright, eſq. of Sandy Downham in Suffolk, and married a daughter of Roger North, eſq.

Theſe manors were purchaſed by the late John Spencer, eſq. brother to the late and uncle to the preſent duke of Marlborough, but have within theſe few years been ſold by his ſon, the preſent earl Spencer, to James Crowe, eſq. of the city of Norwich, who is the preſent lord,

Aſhwyken lies upon the right of the turnpike-road running from Lynn, at the diſtance of five miles from that port. Formerly the road to Lynn from

Norwich, near this place, was extremely dangerous, and that part particularly which paſſed near Bawſey, called Bawſey Bottom, was remarkable for being, perhaps, the worſt piece of road in England, and was much dreaded by all travellers in carriages from Norwich to Lynn.

The church of Aſhwyken is dedicated to All Saints, and was appropriated to Weſtacre priory.

The church of Leſiate was dedicated to All Saints, and appropriated to the priory of Weſtacre. Service is performed in this church every third Sunday, and two Sundays at Aſhwyken.

BABINGLEY. Sir Henry Spelman obſerves, that the town is ſeated in an angle, or nook of land between two rivers, (called by him the Iſis and the Cong) and the town ſeems to take its name from Bab, or Be, a fine winding river; thus Bavenburc, now called Bauburgh, in Norfolk, Babworth in Nottinghamſhire, Babington in Somerſetſhire, &c. and Ing and Ley, as lying in the meadows.

BUTLER'S MANOR, or WEST-HALL. In the reign of Henry I. ſir William de Rudham held it; from him it came to John de Boteler, whoſe name it ſtill retains.

In 1369, ſir Adam de Clifton was lord, and preſented as heir to Caily, and ſo to Tateſhale; and in the 45th of king Edward III. Joan, late the widow of John Boteler, was found to hold the manor of Botelers in Babingley, of the manor of Weſt-hall in the ſaid town, and that John was her ſon and heir, and of age, as appears from an inquiſition taken at Babingley on Wedneſday after the feaſt of St. Simon and

and Jude, and that ſhe died on Thurſday after the feaſt of St. Margaret, in the 43d of the ſaid king.

This John Boteler, ſon of John Boteler and Joan his wife, was the laſt heir male of his family, and was afterwards a knight, and his daughter and heir Margaret, being married to Jeffery Cobbe, of Sandringham, their eſtate here came into that family, wherein it continued till ſold about 1686 to ſir Edward Atkins, who conveyed it ſoon after to James Hoſte, eſq. and from the Hoſtes it came to Henry Corniſh Henley, eſq. of Sandringham.

WEST-HALL, or TATISHALE'S MANOR. This manor, the deſcent of which is very uncertain, either by inheritance or purchaſe, came at laſt to the family of the Cobbes, in which family it remained till ſold about the year 1686, and afterwards paſſed to the Hoſtes, and ſo to Henry Corniſh Henley, eſq. in right of his wife, Suſan, daughter and ſole heireſs of the late James Hoſte, eſq. of Sandringham, and upon his deceaſe reverted to his relict, the preſent Mrs. Henley of Sandringham.

This church of Babingley is ſuppoſed to be the firſt church that was built in this county. The river, or more properly the channel, parts it from Caſtle-Riſing, which was formerly a ſea-port town: though the ſea has left it, the tide ſtill flows up the river. The woods of Babingley and Woolferton, adjoining to it, are very valuable, and abound in game.

The preſent rector of this pariſh is the Rev. James Sharp, preſented in the year 1732 by the late James Hoſte, eſq. of Sandringham.

Of

Of late years a turnpike-road has been made from Lynn, through Gaywood and Caſtle-Riſing, to the end of Babingley lane, a diſtance of about ſix miles, the road before being almoſt impaſſable from the depth of mud in the winter time.

BAWSEY and GLOSTHORPE, were two diſtinct villages at the ſurvey, called Gloreſthorpe and Bouſeda, or Boweſeia; the firſt was the capital manor, and the other, Bawſey, a beruite to it, both held by Robert Malet, a Norman baron, lord of Eye in Suffolk.

Gloreſthorpe may take its name from the Britons, being by a Gloy-Re, that is a fair water; thus Glouceſter or Gloſter, from Gloy, in Welſh, fair, and Cheſter.

Bawſey takes its name from its ſcite, on a winding ſtream or water.

William, lord Malet, was with the Conqueror at the deciſive battle of Haſtings, and ſent with the body of king Harold, there ſlain, to ſee it decently interred. In the Conqueror's charter to the dean and canons of St. Martin's le Grand, London, he ſigned next to the earls, and had then the title of Princeps. By Heſilia his wife he had Robert, to whom the Conqueror gave the honour of Eye, in Suffolk, and about two hundred and twenty manors in that county, thirty-two in Yorkſhire, three in Eſſex, one in Hampſhire, two in Nottinghamſhire, eight in Lincolnſhire, and the following in Norfolk, beſides Gloſthorpe and Bawſey: — Kilverſton, in Shropham hundred; Saxlingham and Shottiſham, in Henſtead hundred: Scoteford, in Earſham hundred; Giſſing, Burſton, Thorpe, Roydon, Shimpling, Thelton,

Thelton, and Semere, in Diſs hundred; Woodton, in Loddon hundred; Horsford, Horſham, Beeſton, and Sprowſton, in Taverham hundred; Bacton and Dilham, in Tunſtead hundred; Fretton and Hardwick, in Depwade hundred.

This Robert was great chamberlain of England, under king Henry I. but in the 2d year of that king was baniſhed, and deprived of his poſſeſſions in England, for adhering to Robert Curtois, that king's eldeſt brother, duke of Normandy.

After a variety of poſſeſſors under different princes, the lordſhip of Bawſey was held by John Conyers, eſq. (ſon of ſir Robert Conyers, and Maud his wife, daughter of ſir John Fitz-Ralph) who married Elianor, ſiſter and coheir of William, ſon of ſir William Yelverton, (knight of the bath at king Edward IV's. coronation, and one of the juſtices of the king's bench) but having no iſſue, it deſcended to Thomas Conyers, brother of John, who left two daughters and coheirs; Ann married to Thomas Spelman, eſq. of Ellingham Magna; and Ela married to ſir Robert Lovell, ſecond ſon of ſir Ralph Lovell, of Barton Bendiſh in Norfolk, and brother to ſir Thomas Lovell, knight of the garter, which Robert was knighted at Blackheath field in 1497.

About the 6th year of queen Elizabeth, Thomas Thoreſby, ſon and heir of Edmund Thoreſby, had livery of a moiety of the manor of Bawſey, and two third parts of the manor of Gloſthorpe; and Francis Mountford, eſq. had livery of a third part of that manor, about the 22d of the ſaid queen, held of the honour of Eye; and Jane Thoreſby preſented, as lady of Bawſey, in 1681, and William Thoreſby, Gent. in 1719.

The

The ſituation of this town is very indifferent, being placed in ſwamps, and ſurrounded with ſands. It lies about three miles to the north-eaſt of Lynn.

The preſent rector is the Rev. Samuel Beatniffe, who was preſented in 1728 by Edmund Hill.

BILNEY, WEST. West Bilney Manor Belhouse's: ſo called from Thomas de Belhouſe, who was lord in the reign of Henry III.

After various deſcents in the family of Belhouſe, under different princes, this manor was conveyed, in the reign of Edward VI. to Thomas Mildmay, eſq. from him it deſcended to his ſon, ſir Thomas Mildmay, who conveyed it to Francis Windham, a judge of the King's Bench, in the reign of queen Elizabeth.

Thomas Windham, eſq. ſon of ſir Henry Windham, of Felbrigge, ſold it to ſir Edward Bullock, knight, of Eſſex; and afterwards it came to the family of the Freakes in Hants, who removed into Ireland.

Sir Ralph Freake was created a baronet, June 4, 1713, and his youngeſt ſon, ſir John Freake, ſold it about the year 1751 to Mr. Francis Dalton, of Swaffham in this county, whoſe only ſon, Francis Dalton, dying, in conſequence of a violent fall from his horſe, by which his thigh was broke, left this eſtate and manor to Mr. William Dalton, of Swaffham, the preſent proprietor.

Monpinzoun's Manor. This manor, in the reign of Edward II. was held by the family of Monpinzoun, from which it derives its name, and in proceſs of

of time came, like the manor of Belhouſe, to the families of Mildmay, Windham, Bullock, Freake, and to Mr. William Dalton, the preſent proprietor.

The church is dedicated to St. Cæcilia.

This town is ſituated about eight miles from Lynn, in the road to Swaffham.

CASTLE-ACRE. Called in Doomſday-book, Acre, from its ſcite by a river or running water, was the lordſhip of Toche, a Saxon thane, in king Edward's time, and granted at the conqueſt by king William I. to William earl Warren in Normandy, and after of Surry in England, who attended him in his expedition into England, and was rewarded alſo with theſe following lordſhips in Norfolk: Walton, Geyton, Grimſtone, Congham, Hillington, Maſſingham, Harpley, Anmer, in Freebridge hundred.—Stanhoe, Shernbourne, Barwick and Fring, in Docking hundred.—Heacham and Snettiſham, in Smithdon hundred.—Wilton, Feltwell, Methwold, Northwold, Mundford, Colveſton, Keburn, Santon, Oteringey, Weeting, and Cranwiſe, in Grimſhoe hundred.—Thexton, Caſton, Tofts, Ellingham, Scoulton and Griſton, in Wayland hundred.—Marham, Fincham, Helgay, Wimbottiſham, Denver, Dereham and Outweil, in Clackcloſe hundred.——Stinton, Kerdiſtone, Hackford, Dalling, Thurning and Elſing, in Eynsford hundred.——Taverham in Taverham hundred.——Coltiſhall, Mortoft, Wickmere, Woolterton, Farningham, Mannington, Irmingland, Corpuſtey, Tuttington, Brampton, Cawſton, Hautboys and Crakeford, in South Erpingham hundred.——Paſton, Witton, Burton, Walſham and Riſton, in Tunſtead hundred.—Filby in Eaſt Flegg hundred.—Carleton in Depwade hundred.——Larling, Rockland,

land, Roudham, and Illington, in Shropham hundred.——Norton, Wike and Banham, in Guiltcroſs hundred.——Greſſenhall, Scarning, Lexham, Weaſenham, Kempſton, Franſham, Rougham, Tittleſhall, and Stanfield, in Launditch hundred.——Wymondham, Morley, Wicklewood, Deopham, Welborne, Colton, Barnham and Tochethorpe, in Forehoe hundred.—Mattiſhall, Burgh, Letton, Shipdam, Thuxton and Riſing, in Mitford hundred.—Dudlington, Cley, Hilburgh, Bradenham, Palgrave, South-acre, Bodney, Pickenham, in South Greenhoe hundred.——Sculthorpe, Baſham, Kettleſtone, Waterden, Fulmerſtone, Croxton, Creak, Snoring, Ryburgh, Stibbard and Burnham, in Gallow hundred.—Rudham, Bagthorpe, Syderſtone, Houghton, Tatterſet, Helhoughton, Scirford, Hempton, and Barmere, in Brothercroſs hundred.——Wiverton and Briſton, in Holt hundred.—Holkham and Egmere, in North Greenhoe hundred.—Gimingham, Knapton, Thorpe, Mundeſley, Repps, North and South Greſham, Aldborough, Aylmerton, Barningham, Plumſtead, Suſtead, Woolterton and Trunch, in North Erpingham hundred.

Earl's Manor. In the year 1206, earl William, the ſecond earl Warren, owed king John a palfrey, as a fine for not being a juſticiary of the Cinque Ports; and in the 9th of that king, he and the archbiſhop of Canterbury paid a fine that their knights ſhould not go over into Poictou. In the 1ſt of Henry III. there being ſome differences between the king and him, a truce was made between them for eight days, from the feaſt of St. Tiberius and Valerius, before the pope's legate, and ſeveral noblemen of the king's council, at Chicheſter; and he was appointed, in the 4th of that king, to meet the king of Scots at Berwick, and to conduct him to York, where

where the king of England would meet him: and in his 9th year, he accounted for the profits of the county of Surry, as ſheriff.

He married two wives; firſt, Maud, daughter of the earl of Arundel, who died without iſſue; ſecondly, Maud, ſiſter of Anſelme Mareſchal, earl of Pembroke, widow of Hugh Bigod, earl of Norfolk, and left by her John Plantagenet, his ſon and ſucceſſor, in 1240; in which year, Maud his mother had five knights fees and an half in Burnham, of the fee of this earl, aſſigned to her; eight held by Ralph de Menney, one by Geffrey Glanvile, and four by Peter de Kenet, as part of her dower; and in the ſaid year, the king ordered the barons of the exchequer, that this earl ſhould have the third penny of the profits of the county of Surry, which his anceſtors held.

This manor was called Earl's Manor, moſt probably, from the earl Warren, whoſe family was long in poſſeſſion of it.

John, earl Watren and Surry, ſoon after his grandfather's death, married, in the 33d of king Edw. I. Joan de Barr, daughter of Henry, earl of Barr in France, by Eleanor his wife, daughter of the aforeſaid king, and was deputed by the earl of Hereford Conſtable of England.

In the 9th year of Edward II. he gave great part of his eſtate, with his caſtle and manor here, to the ſaid king, who in the next year regranted it to him, and had in the ſame year licenſe to purſue his divorce from the above-mentioned lady his wife, before certain eccleſiaſtics delegated for that purpoſe, and ſold about the ſame time this lordſhip and caſtle, with

with that of Caſtle-acre Wyken, to Adomarus de Valentia, earl of Pembroke, who was found to die ſeiſed of it (by the eſcheator, John de Blomefield) on June 23, in the 17th of Edward II. and David de Strabolgi, earl of Athol, and Joan his wife, (ſiſter and coheir to the earl of Pembroke) were found to hold it in the 1ſt of Edward III.

Soon after the aforeſaid John, earl Warren, &c. was poſſeſſed of it, and in the 9th of Edward III. granted it to that king and his heirs, who on the 7th of June, in the ſaid year, regranted it to the earl for life; remainder to Richard earl of Arundel; and on an inquiſition taken at Caſtle-acre, July 18, in the 21ſt of that king, by William de Middleton, the king's eſcheator, it was found that John Warren, late earl of Surry, died on the eve of St. Peter and St. Paul laſt paſt, ſeiſed of this manor and caſtle for life, of the king's grant; remainder to Richard earl of Arundel, and his heirs; that the herbage within the caſtle, and in the ditch, was worth 5s. per ann. that there were three hundred acres of arable land, valued at 75s. at 3d. per acre, eight acres of meadow at 12d. per acre, fifteen of paſture at 4d. per acre, rent of aſſiſe 13l. per ann. a market and fair 13s 4d. pleas and perquiſites of court, with the lete, 60s. per ann.

Dugdale relates, that Joan, counteſs of Warren, wife to this earl, being to go beyond ſea, in the 19th of this king, on ſome ſpecial employment for the king, had protection for all her lands, &c. and that ſoon after ſhe died, and the earl married a ſecond wife; but it appears that the firſt ſurvived him. He was married indeed to Iſabel de Houland, as is proved by an indenture made between him and the king, in his 20th year, June 2, and by his laſt will, wherein

wherein he gives a ring with a ruby, &c. to the ſaid Iſabel his wife, and died June 30, 1347, in the 21ſt of Edward III.

Richard Fitz-Alan, ſon of Edmund Fitz-Alan, earl of Arundel, by Alice, ſiſter and heir to John earl Warren, &c. ſucceeded him, was lord of this manor, and earl of Surry and Arundel, on whoſe death, in 1375, Richard his ſon and heir, by Alianore, daughter to Henry earl of Lancaſter, relict of Henry lord Beaumont, inherited the ſaid honours, to whom king Richard II. in his 11th year, and to Henry earl of Derby, Thomas earl of Warwick, Thomas earl Marſhal, and Thomas duke of Glouceſter, granted twenty thouſand pounds out of the ſubſidy raiſed for the king, as charges and expences they had been at for the honour of the crown, and the ſafety of the kingdom, in acting againſt the duke of Ireland; but in the 21ſt of the ſaid king, he was beheaded, and his eſtate and this manor granted to Thomas Mowbray, earl marſhal and earl of Nottingham, and afterwards duke of Norfolk, who married his daughter, and is ſaid to be ſo inhuman, as to bind up his eyes and become his executioner.

On the acceſſion of king Henry IV. to the crown, Thomas, ſon and heir of this Richard, earl of Surry and Arundel, by Elizabeth, daughter of William Bohun, earl of Northampton, was reſtored in blood, made knight of the Bath, on that king's coronation, and earl of Surry and Arundel: he married Beatrix, an illegitimate daughter to the king of Portugal, but dying without iſſue, left three ſiſters and coheirs, in 1416; when this manor and caſtle came, by virtue of an entail made by Richard Fitz-Alan, earl of Arundel, in the 21ſt of Edw. III. to ſir John Fitz-Alan, commonly called ſir John Arundel, couſin

and heir male to the laſt earl Thomas, and grandſon to earl Richard, who dying in 1421, king Henry V. granted the cuſtody of this manor and caſtle, then in the king's hands, (as guardian to John, ſon of John, earl of Arundel and Surry, by Alianore, daughter of ſir John Berkley) to ſir John Cornwayl, knight, with the marriage of the ſaid minor, who was afterwards retained by king Henry V. in the wars of France, where dying, in the 13th of Henry VI. was buried in the church of the Friers Minors at Beauvois, leaving by Maud his wife, daughter of Robert Lovell, Humphrey his ſon and heir, which Humphrey being a minor, died in the 16th of the ſaid king ſeiſed of this lordſhip and caſtle, when William Fitz-Alan, his father's brother, inherited the eſtate and honour; which William had, by Joan his wife, daughter of Richard Nevill, earl of Saliſbury, Thomas his heir and ſucceſſor, in the 3d of Henry VII. who had livery of all his father's manors and lands on May the 21ſt, was earl of Arundel; and on his death, in the the 16th of Henry VIII. left William, lord Matrevers, his ſon and heir, by Margaret, daughter of Richard Widvile, earl Rivers, and ſiſter to king Edward IV.'s queen, which marriage was ſettled in October, 1464, at Reading.

This William, earl of Arundel, married ——, daughter of Henry earl of Northumberland, and on his death, in 1543, was ſucceeded by Henry Fitz-Alan, his ſon and heir, who married Catherine, daughter of Thomas Grey, marquis of Dorſet, by whom he had two daughters and coheirs; Jane, who married John lord Lumley, and Mary, to Thomas Howard duke of Norfolk, by whom the earldom of Arundel was brought into that family, but the manor of Caſtle-acre was ſold by the aforeſaid Henry,

Henry, in the 1ſt year of queen Elizabeth, to ſir Thomas Greſham, knight, from whom it was conveyed to Thomas Cecil, who was afterwards earl of Exeter; and ſir Edward Coke, lord chief juſtice, bought it of William Cecil earl of Exeter, whoſe ſiſter Elizabeth he married, and in this family it remained, the right honourable Thomas Coke, earl of Leiceſter, the late lord, dying poſſeſſed of it in 1759.

Fox's Manor. John Fox of Caſtle-acre, by his will, dated on the feaſt of St. Michael, 1434, died ſeiſed of it, and left it to his eldeſt ſon Thomas, and was buried in the priory church.

From the above John Fox this manor probably took its name.

By an inquiſition taken at Norwich, October 23, in the 14th of king Charles I. —— Becke, Gent. was found to die ſeized of the manor of Foxes, Auguſt 21, 1636, held of ſir Robert Coke, in ſoccage, of his manor of Caſtle-acre, and Jeremy was his ſon and heir.

After this it was poſſeſſed by the Doves, of Upton in Northamptonſhire, and ſold in the reign of king George I. by —— Dove, eſq. to ſir Thomas Coke, earl of Leiceſter.

It probably came to the Doves by the marriage of Mrs. Frances Becke, in 1633, (to Thomas Dove, eſq.) daughter of William Becke of Caſtle-acre.

The church is dedicated to St. James, and was formerly a rectory, but is now a vicarage. It is a large regular building, conſiſting of a nave, a north and ſouth iſle, covered with lead, and a chancel

thatched; at the weſt end is a lofty four-ſquare tower, with five bells.

The preſent vicar is the Rev. Mr. Langton, of Longford in Derbyſhire, who was preſented in the year 1775 by the late Wenman Coke, eſq. of Longford, on ſucceeding to the earl of Leiceſter's eſtate, on the demiſe of the counteſs of Leiceſter in the beginning of that year.

In the eaſt window of the church are the arms of the earl Warren, checque, or, and azure; and about the church alſo in the windows, were the arms of the earls of Arundel, gules, a lion rampant, or; Le Groſs, quarterly, argent and azure, on a bend, ſable, three martlets, or; Mortimer, earl of Marſh; Bohun, earl of Northampton; Haſtings and Valentia, quarterly, earls of Pembroke; Beauchamp, earl of Warwick, &c.

Thomas Candeler of Caſtleacre, by his will dated in 1514, was buried in the church, and gave two cloſes, called Coſting and Weſtgate, to Thomas March and his heirs, "on the condition of keeping "a light in the baſon before our Lady in the cha- "pel, with 5 waxe candels to be light at ev'ry prin- "cipal feſte, in every dobil feſte 2, and every ſin- "gle feſte 1; on a neglect whereof, then the church "reeves to take the cloſes, and to keep the ſame."

CASTLE-ACRE PRIORY and MANOR was founded on the following occaſion. William de Warren (the firſt earl Warren, alſo earl of Moreton and Surry) being on a pilgrimage to Rome with his counteſs, in their way viſited many of the foreign monaſteries, and being received with particular reſpect by the prior and convent of Cluni in Burgundy,

dy, were admitted into their fraternity; and having long before determined to found ſome religious houſe for the welfare of their ſouls, they now came to a reſolution to found it for the order of Clunial Monks: accordingly they obtained of the prior and convent four of their monks, of whom one Lanzo was chief; and the earl on his return to England granted the church of St. Pancras, ſtanding under his caſtle of Lewes in Suſſex, to the order, and endowed it with lands and poſſeſſions for the ſupport and maintenance of twelve Clunial Monks, and confirmed the ſame to them by charter. This happened about the year 1078. Not long after, ſo great was his devotion and attachment to this order, that he annexed the church of Caſtleacre, and manor, given him by the Conqueror, with two caracutes of land, to the monks of St. Pancras, and determined on founding another monaſtery at Caſtleacre, which ſhould be ſubordinate to that at Lewes. This he accompliſhed accordingly, and dedicated it to God, St. Mary, and the holy apoſtles St. Peter and St. Paul, giving the monks the name of the Clunial Monks of St. Pancras at Lewes, ſerving God at Acre. Herbert, biſhop of Norwich, conſtituted the church and monaſtery here, and placed therein Clunial Monks, under the rule of St. Benedict.

In a charter granted to this priory, William ſtiles himſelf, earl of Surry, and for the ſalvation of his own ſoul, and that of his father and his mother, and his heirs, gives to this priory the church of Acre, the church of Methwold and advowſon thereof, the church of Leaden Roding (in Eſſex) and advowſon, with thoſe of Wicknere and Trunch, and two parts of the tithes of his demeans in Grimſtone in Norfolk.—Witneſſes, William his ſon, Wi-

mer his ſewer, William Blanche, Walkelin de Roſet, Hugh de Wanci, Robert de Mortimer.

Herbert, biſhop of Norwich, confirmed the grant of this founder, and certified that the monks of Hacra had entered on that church with his conſent, and that the monaſtery there built, was built by his proviſion.

William, the ſecond earl of Warren and Surry, confirmed the aforeſaid grant, and gave himſelf many other grants of lands and revenues to this priory, which biſhop Everard appropriated and confirmed to them. Several others of this family of Surry gave churches and large endowments, ſo that in proceſs of time the priory of Caſtleacre became one of the richeſt and moſt conſiderable in England.

Henry I. confirmed the grants of earl Warren as follows: *Notum ſit p'ſentib; et futuris qd. Ego Henricus, Dei gratia Rex Anglor. p. ſalute a'i æ meæ et anteceſſor. meor. et p. ſtatu, et p. proſperitate regni, concedo Deo et ſcæ Mariæ de Achra et ſ'cis ap'lis Pertro et Paulo, et monachis de ſco. Pancratio ibm. Deo ſervientib; quicquid Will. de Warrenna dedit eis ſcil. in ip'a Achra duas carucatas terre, et hocq' fregerunt de brueriis ejus, et culturam cum mora ubi ecc' a fundata eſt—Signum Hen. Regis, ſ. Rogeri epi.—ſ. Robti epi.—ſ. Willi. Comitus—ſ. Hen. Comitis—ſ. Ran. cancell.—ſ. Gilbi. de Aquila.—ſ. Herberti epi.—ſ. Willi. de Albeni.—ſ. Willi. de Curcy—ſ. Willi. Meſchines—ſ. Willi. Piperelli —ſ. Stowe—ſ. Jordani de Saiaco—ſ. Rog. fil Ric.*

William, the third earl Warren and Surry, on the dedication of the new church of this priory, confirmed all the donations of his anceſtors and barons, that is, lords of towns under him.

Everard

Everard, biſhop of Norwich, confirmed about the year 1140, the right of preſentation, or right of tithes belonging to this priory, in theſe following churches: Acre, Newton (by Caſtle-acre) Eaſt and Weſt Lexham, Dunham Magna, with St. Mary's chapel, Kempſton, Whiſſonſet, Weaſenham St. Peter, and St. Paul, Sengham, (Shingham) Otringhee, and Methwold, Wiggenhall St. Mary Magdalen, Haverhill, Depden, Haſpale, Bacton, Trunch, Wickmere, Iteringham, Hailedune, Fulmondeſtone, Eaſt Baſham, Weſt Baſham, Tatterſet St. Andrew, Congham, and the patronage of the monaſtery of St. Andrew de Bromholm.

King Henry II. confirmed to the priory the churches of Newton by Acre, South Creak, and Flete, and granted them to be free from all toll.

John Plantagenet, earl of Warren, by his deed reciting that, Whereas his ſtewards and others his officers in Norfolk, had demanded of this priory certain penſions of meats and drinks as their right, given at firſt by the monks out of their free will and reſpect to the ſervants of the earls of Warren, belonging to their manor of Wike in Caſtle-acre, he by this deed quits claim to the ſame, and charges his officers not to demand or receive it for the future, dated May 10, Edward II. 9°.

Symon, biſhop of Norwich, confirmed to the ſaid priory the churches of Eaſt Acre, Newton, South Creak, Weſt Baſham, Kempſtone, Methwold, St. Mary Magdalen Wiggenhall, with many other donations.

Numberleſs were the benefactors and benefactions given to this priory; churches, lands, and revenues

without end by the laity of thoſe times. The archbiſhop of Canterbury contented himſelf with granting *indulgences*.

Walter de Grancourt gave by fine, in the 4th of Henry III. the church of Fulmondeſtone, which they had of the grant of Hugh his anceſtor.

Adam Talbot gave by fine, 37th of Henry III. the church of St. Michael of Fincham.

William Bardolf gave the church of St. Peter of North Burlingham.

John Peckham, archbiſhop of Canterbury, granted an *indulgence* of thirty days to all who would pray for the ſoul of William, the third earl Warren, and fifteen days for that of Ela his counteſs, and twenty days for the ſouls of William, the firſt earl Warren and Surry, and Gundrede his wife, dated at South Malling, the 3d of the ides of July, 1283.

About this time the prior was found to hold four hundred and ſixty acres of arable land, twenty of paſture, ten of meadow, five water mills, with the liberty of fiſhing therein, in pure alms, and divers other lands in this town, held by thirty-ſix tenants, a court baron, two folds, two free boars, and two bulls of the earl Warren.

In the 47th of Edward III. this priory was made *indigena*, and not ſubject, as a cell, to the prior of Lewes.

The monks certified to the king that the prior and convent of Caſtle-acre were all Engliſhmen, and not aliens, or the ſubject of any foreign power, nor

nor paid any rents or penſions, or owed obedience to the abbot of Cluni, except only when he came into England to viſit the priory, whereupon the houſe was allowed to be *indigena*, native, and not *alienigena*, alien, and was privileged accordingly.

Several ſmall priories or cells belonged to this. Bartholomew de Granvile confirmed it to the priory of Bromholm in Norfolk, founded by his father William.

William de Huntingfeld gave the priory of Mendham in Suffolk; William, the third earl Warren, the priory of Sleveſholm in Methwold; William de Liſewis, and Godfrey his ſon, that of Normanſburgh in South Rainham. The prior of Coln in Eſſex paid an annual penſion of 26s. per ann. a penſion of 26s. 8d. per ann. out of the church of Aſpal in Suffolk, and five marks out of that of Gayton in Norfolk, and a penſion out of Barefield Parva in Eſſex.

But the time was approaching in which this proud and wealthy monaſtery, which had ſhook off dependence upon its original order and church, was to reſign its honours, and give up its riches to the hand of power.

On the 22d of November, 1533, Thomas Malling, prior, and his convent, ſurrendered this priory, with the manor of Caſtle-acre Priors, and all its appurtenances, to king Henry VIII. In the ſurrender deed it is expreſſed, "for certain cauſes, juſt and "reaſonable, them, their ſouls and conſciences "eſpecially moving, together with the ſcite of all "the manors, meſſuages, lands and tenements, rents "and ſervices, &c. advowſons, and all manner of "things

" things thereunto belonging, in Norfolk, Suffolk, " Eſſex, Middleſex, Cambridgeſhire, &c. in England " and Wales;" and ſigned by Thomas Malling, prior, and ten monks, viz. John Hounſword, William Burgullion, Robert Daniel, Robert Fiſke, William Elis, John Bets, Edmund Wadenowe, John Lowe, Robert Saary, and Robert Halman.

The king, on December 22, in his 39th year, granted the ſcite of this priory, the prior's manor, the impropriated rectory, and advowſon of the vicarage, to Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk; and in the 2d of Elizabeth, the duke of Norfolk alienated it to Thomas Greſham, who in the preceding year had purchaſed alſo of Henly, earl of Arundel, the lordſhip, or the earl's manor of Caſtle-acre. The duke is ſaid to convey his part for 2000l. Greſham conveyed his right in both theſe lordſhips to Thomas Cecil, afterwards earl of Exeter; and his ſon William, earl of Exeter, ſold them to ſir Edward Coke, lord chief juſtice of England, who married his ſiſter. Sir Edward ſoon after fell under the diſpleaſure of the king and nobles, was forbid the court, and ſtruck off the council, and lived in great ſorrow and diſgrace: he was ſeparated from his wife, his ſon died childleſs, and his daughter, the viſcounteſs Purbeck, lived an open and ſcandalous adultereſs. Sir Henry Spelman gives this among many other inſtances, of the misfortunes of thoſe families that have dealt in church lands; and it muſt be acknowledged the lord chief juſtice dealt pretty largely in them, eſpecially in the county of Norfolk. He was a great lawyer, but very rapacious, as the vaſt poſſeſſions left behind him to his deſcendants evidently ſhew.

The

The late earl of Leiceſter was lord of the manor of Arundel or Earl's, Prior's and Fox's, and improprietor and patron of the vicarage. His lordſhip left no iſſue, but died childleſs like his anceſtor abovementioned: he had a ſon, the late lord viſcount Coke, a man of great abilities, who died childleſs alſo; he repreſented this county in parliament for one parliament. On his deceaſe the family eſtate was entailed by lord Leiceſter to a collateral branch, Wenman Roberts Coke, of Longford in Derbyſhire, eſq. the eldeſt ſon of his ſiſter, who ſucceeded to it on the demiſe of lady Leiceſter in 1775, and died himſelf ſoon after in April 1776, having been elected repreſentative of the county at the general election in 1774.

The ſcite of the priory church lies weſt of the caſtle, was a venerable large Gothic pile, of freeſtone, flint, &c. and built in a cathedral or conventual manner; great part of the front or weſt end of it, is ſtill remaining, where the principal entrance was through a great arch, over which was a ſtately window; on each ſide of the great door were doors to enter into the north and ſouth iſles, under the tower, as the grand door ſerved for an entrance into the nave or body; at the north and ſouth end of this front, or weſt end, ſtood two towers ſupported by ſtrong arches and pillars; the nave or body had twelve great pillars, making ſeven arches on each ſide, the loweſt joining to the towers; on the eaſt end of the nave ſtood the grand tower, ſupported by four great pillars, through which was the entrance into the choir; on the ſouth and north ſide of this tower were two croſs iſles or tranſcepts, and at the end of the north tranſcept there ſeems to have been a chapel or veſtiary; the choir was of equal breadth with the nave and iſles, but much ſhorter, and at the

the eaſt end of it was in form of a chapel, and here ſtood the high altar.

The cloiſter was on the ſouth ſide of the church, and had an entrance into it at the weſt end of the ſouth iſle, near to the tower, and another at the eaſt end of the ſaid iſle, near the grand tower; the chapter houſe ſeems to have joined to the eaſt ſide of the cloiſter, and the dormitory to have been over the weſt part of the cloiſter. Weſt of the cloiſter, and adjoining, was the prior's apartment, now converted into a farm houſe: in a large room above ſtairs, called now the prior's dining room, is a curious bow window of ſtone, conſiſting of nine pannels: in the firſt were the arms of the priory, painted on the glaſs; in the ſecond the arms of the earl of Arundel, and earl Warren, quarterly, but now broke and gone; in the third, Mowbray, duke of Norfolk, gules, a lion rampant, argent; 4th, the red and white roſe united, and a crown over it; 5th, France and England quarterly; 6th, the roſe, &c. as above; 7th, earl Warren's arms; 8th, quarterly, the earl of Arundel in the firſt and fourth quarter, and in the ſecond and third Matrevers, ſable, fretty, or, and Fitz-Alan, baron of Clun, p. feſs, azure and argent, quarterly; 9th, argent, a croſs compony, or, and azure, between twelve croſs croſslets, fitche, ſable; the priory arms, as we take it, and theſe letters *I. W.* joined together by a knot, and under it, SPITV. PRINCIPALI. CONFIRMA. ME.

By this it appears, that this window was built by John Winchelſey, prior in the reign of Hen. VII. or VIII. afterwards it might be converted into a dining room; but that it was originally a large chapel, and this room was only the weſt end of it, is apparent; it extended to the ſouth tower of the church, where

at

at the eaſt end of it is a large window, as in a chapel, and a ſtep or aſcent here, as to an altar: and on the ſouth wall, near to this aſcent, is an arched carved ſeat of ſtone, riſing in form of a pyramid, with the ſhield of the earl Warren alone, which teſtifies it to be an antique pile, built in their time, before the patronage of the priory came to the earls of Arundel; and at the north eaſt corner, near to the altar place, is a door place with a ſtone arch; and here was a ſtone ſtaircaſe which led down into the cloiſter.

In another room was, a few years paſt, in a window, the broken portraiture of one of the earls of Arundel, in armour, with a broad ſword in his hand, and on his ſurcoat the arms of Arundel, Matrevers and Clun, as above, and part of a legend, *My truſt ys* ———; alſo on a chapeau, gules, an oaken ſlip, vert, acorned or.

There are two prints of the ruins of this priory, one by Mr. Buck, who dedicated it to the lady Margaret, lady baroneſs of Clifford; and the other by Mr. Millicent. The ſcite of it took in ſeveral acres. The grand entrance was north of the priory church, where is now ſtanding a large and ſtately gate-houſe of free-ſtone; over the arch as you enter are the arms of the earl Warren, of Arundel and earl Warren quarterly, France and England, and thoſe of the priory.

The whole ſcite was incloſed with a lofty ſtone wall, good part of which is ſtill ſtanding.

A little towards the eaſt of the priory ſtood the caſtle, in a riſing ground, from the ſouth to the north, including, with all its outworks and fortifications,

tions, about eighteen acres of ground, in a circular form; through this there is a way, or ſtreet, called now the Bailey-ſtreet, with houſes on each ſide, running directly north and ſouth; at the entrance of this ſtreet, on the north, ſtands a ſtone gate-houſe, with two round baſtions, and had two doors, an inward and outward one, with a portcullis in the middle; and no doubt there was another at the entrance of this ſtreet, on the ſouth ſide, as you come from Swaffham, as appears from ſome marks ſtill remaining. Near the north gate, on the eaſt ſide of the ſtreet, was a chapel for the caſtle, the walls of which are ſtill ſtanding, and is now a dwelling-houſe; and on the eaſt ſide of the ſaid ſtreet, near the middle of it, was a ſtrong ſtone gate-houſe, leading into the outward court of the great caſtle, which was circular, incloſed with a ſtrong and lofty wall of free-ſtone, flint, &c. and embattled ſeven feet thick, a conſiderable part of which is ſtill remaining, with a deep ditch, or entrenchment, and a lofty embattled wall round it; within this was the keep; and croſs this deep ditch or entrenchment are three lofty walls at proper diſtances, which join the caſtle wall, as buttreſſes, &c. The whole area of this caſtle, with its entrenches and ditches, and an outward wall embattled as aforeſaid, includes about eighteen acres of ground, and reaches near the river; where, under this embattled outward wall, is a terras walk, which affords a pleaſant and agreeable proſpect over the country, and water to ſupply and fill the ditches. The other part of the fortifications, lying on the weſt ſide of this Bailey-ſtreet, is called the barbican, and contains above ten acres of land, and was encloſed by deep ditches, entrenchments, and high ramparts.

This caſtle, no doubt, was as agreeable for its apartments as its ſtrength, and it appears that king Edw.

Edw. I. was entertained herein by earl Warren, in January 1297: and one thing is further remarkable of it, that the earl Warren, the founder, though he had one hundred and forty lordſhips in Norfolk, choſe this for his chief great honour, or lordſhip, and reſidence; and his other lordſhips were dependent on it; and in this caſtle was a chapel, with monks therein, before the death of the firſt earl Warren, in 1089.

The Romans ſeem to have had a ſtation here, where the caſtle now ſtands, which might have induced alſo the firſt earl Warren to make choice of it; and from the north part of the preſent entrenchments, there runs a way which goes to Caſtle-acre Wicken, and from thence it proceeds over the country, leaving Maſſingham and Houghton on the right and Anmer on the left hand, and is commonly called The Pedder's Way, and between the two laſt-mentioned towns, on the ſaid way, may be obſerved many *tumuli;* hence it tends in a direct courſe, leaving Fring a little on the right hand, and ſo for Ringſtead, &c. the ſea coaſt, and Brancaſter.

Several Roman coins have been found here, and ſome lately of Veſpaſian, Conſtantine, &c. And not many years paſt, a cornelian ſeal, or ring, with the impreſs of an emperor, his head radiated, was found in a cloſe called Arundel Cloſe.

From the beauty of the ſituation of Caſtle-acre, and the noble ruins at preſent remaining, of which the ſemicircular wall of the caſtle is a very grand and ſtriking ruin, the late earl of Leiceſter at one time entertained an idea of building there: a ſituation no doubt every way ſuperior to that of Holkham, where he afterwards raiſed ſo enormous a pile:

a pile

a pile conſiſting of many detached parts; and enormous as it is, there are few grand rooms in it, not a ſecond dining-room; the whole houſe ſeems taken up and crowded with winding alleys and paſſages, ſo that it is difficult to find the way from one apartment to another; but a more particular deſcription will be given when we come to the hundred it is ſituated in. Inſtead of a fine command of country as at Caſtle-acre, with a river winding through the meadows to the ſouth, the houſe at Holkham ſtands in a hole, with a lake of water running to the north.

"Two cupids ſquirt before: *a lake behind*
"Improves the keenneſs of the *northern wind.*"
POPE.

Lord Leiceſter had a noble opportunity at Caſtle-acre to have thrown the ruins and church into a park, to have formed the moſt extenſive pieces of water to the ſouth, and to have built a palace upon a commanding eminence, that might have attracted the admiration of the whole world. His reaſon for not doing it is ſaid to have been, the erecting the new houſe on the ſpot where the old one ſtood: however reprehenſible the reaſon, it has had its weight in many great ſtructures in this kingdom.

CASTLE-RISING. Next to Lynn and Yarmouth, this was formerly the moſt conſiderable ſea-port town in Norfolk. It was diſtinguiſhed and claims the ſuperiority over all other towns in this hundred, by a famous caſtle that, as Camden ſays, vies with the caſtle of Norwich. By this hundred we mean the hundred of Freebridge Lynn, (independent of Marſhland) which is bounded on the Eaſt by the hundreds of Launditch and Gallow, on the north by Smithdon, on the ſouth by Clackcloſe and

South

South Greenhoe, and on the weſt by Lynn Deeps and the channel. This hundred was granted in ſpecial tail by king Richard III. to John earl of Norfolk, whom he created duke of Norfolk, and earl marſhal of England at the ſame time, for his fidelity to the York Family, and who was killed with him at the battle of Boſworth near Leiceſter.

Auguſt 22, 1485, the night before the battle, the following couplet was thrown into his tent.

"*Jockey* of Norfolk, be not ſo bold,
"For *Dicken* thy maſter is bought and ſold."

Theſe verſes were evidently intended to give the duke an hint of ſome unknown defection or conſpiracy amongſt Richard's troops, and to prevent his expoſing his perſon too much in the action expected the next day: probably it was done by order of king Henry VII. who might have an inclination to ſave the duke. The defection alluded to was that of the lord Stanley, whoſe forces, led on by ſir William Stanley, when they ſaw their time joined thoſe of the earl of Richmond, and falling upon the king's troops, defeated them with great ſlaughter, and turned the victory in favour of the earl, near whom Richard was ſlain fighting with great bravery. That king Henry might probably be inclined to preſerve the life of the duke of Norfolk, as honouring him for his ſteady though miſtaken loyalty, is in ſome meaſure confirmed by his aſking his ſon, the earl of Surry, who was taken priſoner, "How he dare to bear arms in behalf of that ty-"rant and uſurper Richard?" to which the earl replied with great ſpirit, "He was my crowned king, "and if the parliamentary authority of England ſat "the crown upon a *ſtock*, I will fight for *that ſtock*;

" and as I fought then for him, I will fight for you, " when you are eſtabliſhed by the ſaid authority."

This proves that the idea of hereditary indefeaſible right was by no means entertained by the nobility of that age.

This lordſhip, which formerly was a beruite to the great lordſhip of Snettiſham, was granted upon the rebellion of Odo, to William de Albini, king's butler.

From the Albinis, in proceſs of time, this lordſhip came with the caſtle to Roger de Monte Alto, lord of Montalt or Mohaut, who made it his chief ſeat and place of reſidence here.

Roger, (called Robert by Dugdale) lord Montalt, died in the 44th of Henry III. and left John his ſon and heir.

Robert lord Montalt ſucceeded his brother John, about the 52d of the aforeſaid king.

He was ſucceeded by Roger, his ſon and heir, by Iſabel his wife, who married Julian, daughter of Roger Clifford, and was impleaded on account of the rights of his chace, in the 18th of Edward I. by William Ruſteng, lord of Congham, a dog of his tenant having his claws cut off by this lord's ſervants. He dying in the 25th of the ſaid king, aged 27, without iſſue, was ſucceeded by his brother, Robert lord Montalt, who was the eighteenth lord of parliament who ſealed the famous letter ſent to the pope, in the 29th year of Edward I. denying the kingdom of Scotland to be of his fee, or that he had any juriſdiction in temporal affairs, dated at Lincoln, February 12, 1301.

In

In the 1ſt of Edward II. he was ſummoned amongſt other nobles to attend the king's coronation, to be ſolemnized the Sunday next after the feaſt of St. Valentine, by writ dated at Dover, January 8. In the 12th of the ſaid king, the charter of wreck at ſea, in all his lands in this county was confirmed to him: Snettiſham, Heacham, Hunſtanton, Thornham, Titchwell, &c. are particularly mentioned.—William de Albini, earl of Suſſex, having one in the time of Henry III. through the whole hundreds of Freebridge and Smithdon.

In the 18th of the ſaid king, on September 30, the king ſent a precept to this lord, and Thomas lord Bardolph, to inform them of Mortimer's approach, and to be careful of the country hereabouts.

This Robert appears to have inherited large poſſeſſions, as heir to his brother.

Robert lord Montalt, died on Tueſday next after the feaſt of the nativity of our Lord, in the year 1329, in the 3d of Edward III. without iſſue, and was buried in the priory of Shouldham in Norfolk, being the laſt heir male of that family, who took their name from a hill in Flintſhire in Wales, where they anciently reſided and had a caſtle.

The lady Emma, his widow, by deed dated at London, December 3, in the 5th of the aforeſaid king, ſurrendered up all the aforementioned caſtles, manors, &c. with all her rights in London, (for 400l. per ann. annuity) to the queen dowager of Edward II. queen Iſabel, then regent of the kingdom during the minority of the king her ſon, Edward III.

Soon after this ſhe died, and was buried in the body of the church of Stradſet in Norfolk, a large grave-ſtone of black marble lying over her at this day. Whoſe daughter ſhe was does not appear: ſhe was probably a daughter of De Stradſete, a family of great antiquity, lords of Stradſet.

At her death the queen Iſabel took poſſeſſion of this lordſhip and caſtle.

King Edward III. in his 11th year, October 1, ſettled the reverſion of this manor and caſtle on his eldeſt ſon Edward, after the death of his mother; John of Eltham, earl of Cornwall, (his brother) being dead, and leaving no iſſue, on whom it was before ſettled.

In the year 1327, king Edward II. having reſigned his crown to his ſon, Edward III. who was then only ſixteen years of age, was ſoon after put to death at Berkeley caſtle in Glouceſterſhire, by the contrivance of Mortimer, the favourite of queen Iſabel, and on the following equivocal and ambiguous warrant, ſaid to be wrote by Adam de Torleton, biſhop of Hereford.

"*Edwardum Occidere Nolite Timere Bonun eſt.*"

After the death of Edward II. Iſabel his queen aſſumed the reins of government, on account of the youth of her ſon, king Edward III. and having delegated almoſt abſolute power to her minion Mortimer, he behaved with that inſolence to the nobles, and oppreſſed the kingdom to ſuch a degree, that a conſpiracy was formed by the king's uncle, the earl of Kent, againſt queen Iſabel; and the young king being properly informed of the too great familiarity between

between his mother and Mortimer, ſurprized and ſeized him in the preſence of the queen, at Nottingham caſtle, where ſhe reſided, and where Mortimer had acceſs to her through a ſubterraneous paſſage, the entrance of which is viſible at this day, and at this day called Mortimer's Hole. Lord Mortimer was executed at Tyburn in the 4th year of Edward III. 1330. The queen was confined, and by a parliament held at Nottingham, her dowry was taken from her, and changed to an annuity of 1000l. King Edward III. then nineteen years of age, took the government into his own hands. Thus much was neceſſary to mention of the hiſtory of this queen, for the elucidating her confinement in this caſtle of Riſing.

This queen had her reſidence here the greateſt part of her widowhood, after the execution of her great favourite Mortimer, earl of March.

Grafton tells us, that the king, by the advice of his council, committed his mother, as priſoner, to be kept cloſe in a caſtle, (but does not name it) where ſhe remained during her life: her commitment was in king Edward's fourth year, 1330.

In the year 1340, in the 14th year of his reign, the king and his queen were at this caſtle, paying a viſit to his mother, and made ſome ſtay here, as appears by the account rolls of Adam de Reffham and John de Newland, of Lynn by Riſing, ſending a preſent of wine to him.

In Auguſt 1340, (14th of Edward III.) queen Iſabel ſent her precept from this caſtle to John de Cokesford, mayor of Lynn, to ſend her eight car-

penters to make ſeveral preparations therein, probably for the reception of the king and queen.

In his 18th year, the king on the 3d of Auguſt was lodged here, as appears from ſeveral letters dated from this place, and ſent to William biſhop of Norwich, at Avignon, to be preſented to the pope.

On April 4, in 1357, (the 31ſt of Edward III.) a ſafe conduct was granted to William de Leith, a Scotchman, to wait on her here, and in the next year following, 1358, ſhe died at this caſtle, on Auguſt 22, and was brought from hence about the end of November following; on the 20th of which month the king directed, by letter, the ſheriffs of London and Middleſex to cleanſe the ſtreets of London called Biſhopſgate and Aldgate, from dirt and dung, againſt the coming of the body of his mother; and directs by another, dated December 1 following, the treaſurer and barons of the exchequer to allow 9l. which the ſheriffs had expended for that purpoſe. She was buried in the midſt of the choir of the Grey Friers church in London, and had a tomb of alabaſter erected to her memory.

It may be here obſerved that Mortimer, her great favourite, was buried here, as Stow in his Annals, p. 350, quarto.

On the death of queen Iſabel this lordſhip, and honor as it is called, deſcended to her grandſon, Edward prince of Wales, and was valued, as appears from an account of his revenue, at 90l. per ann. and at the death of this prince, to his ſon Richard, ſoon after king of England, by the name of Richard II.

In

In the 2d year of his reign, king Richard II. granted to John Montfort, ſirnamed the Valiant, duke of Britain and earl of Richmond, and to Joan his wife, called by the king in his grant, his ſiſter, in exchange for the caſtle of Breſt in Britany.

Of this Joan a query ariſes: Godfrey, in his hiſtory of king Charles VII. of France, ſays that he married to his ſecond wife a daughter of Edward the Black Prince, father of king Richard II. but as none of our genealogiſts have mentioned this, he muſt be miſtaken. Philip L'Abbe, in his Tableaux Genealogiques, obſerves that the ſecond wife of the aforeſaid John, was Joan, daughter of Thomas Holland, earl of Kent, by Joan his wife, called the Fair Maid of Kent, daughter of Edmund Plantagenet, earl of Kent; and afterwards married to Edward the Black Prince, and ſo was, as he words it, *Soeur Uterine de Richd. le II. Roy d'Angleterre*, that is, ſiſter by her mother, to Richard II.

On Montfort's defection from the crown of England, (and depoſition from all titles of honour in England, by act of parliament in the 14th of the ſaid king) it was ſeized into the king's hands, who in the ſaid year gave it to Thomas de Woodſtock, duke of Glouceſter, ſixth ſon to king Edward III. who being murdered at Calais, in the 21ſt year of king Richard, Edmund de Langley, duke of York, fifth ſon to king Edward III. obtained a grant of it, with the manors of Beeſton and Milcham, &c. in Norfolk, and died poſſeſſed of it in the 4th of king Henry IV. when it deſcended to his eldeſt ſon, Edward duke of York; who being ſlain in the famous battle of Agincourt in France, in the 3d of Henry V. it came to his brother, Richard de Coningſbergh, earl of Cambridge, who being beheaded in the ſaid

year, it fell to the crown, where it remained till the 36th of Henry VIII. when an act of parliament paſſed, ratifying an exchange between the king, Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk, and Henry his ſon, earl of Arundel and Surry; they giving to the king the manors of Walton, Trimley, Falkenham, with the rectories of Walton and Felixton in Suffolk, for the caſtle, manor, and chace of Riſing and all its appurtenances, with the manors of Thorpe, Gaywood, South Walſham, Halvergate and Ditchingham in Norfolk, Doningworth, Cratfield, Hoo, Staverton and Bromeſwell in Suffolk, to be held of the king *in capite*, by the thirtieth part of a knight's fee, and the rent of 26l. per ann. payable at St. Michael, into the court of Augmentations. Henry the ſon, earl of Arundel, &c. being attainted in his father's life time, the duke enjoyed this manor, &c. till his death, in the 1ſt and 2d of Philip and Mary, when an act of parliament paſſed for the reſtoring of the ſon of the attainted earl.

In the accounts of ſir John Arundel, knight, receiver of the dutchy of Cornwall in the reign of king Henry VIII. he had allowances for 40s. per ann. paid to ſir Henry Marny, knight, as ſteward of this lordſhip; 13l. 8s. as conſtable of the caſtle; 4l. 11s. 3d. as ranger of the chace; and for two under foreſters, called Walkers, 53s. 4d. per ann. At this time ſir Thomas Lovel, knight of the garter, was farmer of the demeans and the warren.

On the attainder of Thomas duke of Norfolk, in the 15th of Elizabeth, it came again to the crown, and ſhe granted it to Edward earl of Oxford, with the demeans of Gaywood; but this grant was ſoon revoked, and it was granted to Henry Howard, earl of Northampton, brother to the duke of Norfolk, attainted;

attainted; who held it to his death, in 1616, and having no iſſue it deſcended to Thomas Howard, earl of Arundel, his heir; which Thomas was grandſon to Thomas duke of Norfolk aforeſaid, and brother to the earl of Northampton; and in this family it remained till it was bought by Thomas Howard, eſq. (one of the tellers of the exchequer, ſon and heir of ſir Robert Howard, knt. auditor of the exchequer, ſixth ſon to Thomas Howard, earl of Berkſhire) of Henry duke of Norfolk, in 1693.

After this it came to the earl of Berkſhire, as heir to the aforeſaid Thomas Howard, eſq. The earl of Berkſhire dying *s. p.* it deſcended to the earl of Suffolk, the preſent lord, one of his majeſty's principal ſecretaries of ſtate, knight of the garter, and one of his majeſty's moſt honourable privy council, 1778.

The duke of Norfolk has the title of lord Howard of Caſtle-Riſing; Henry Howard of Caſtle-Riſing, heir of the ſaid family, being ſo created by letters patent, March 27, in the 21ſt of Charles II.

Two members of parliament are choſen by the free burghers, their repreſentatives therein.

The town takes its name from its ſcite, (Rye is the name of a river, in Yorkſhire, &c. and of a borough town in Suſſex) by a river, on a hill, which affords a fine proſpect, overlooking a large arm of the ſea; and from Ing, a meadow, or marſh ground.

Sir Henry Spelman, who lived at Congham, in the neighbourhood of it, ſays it has been a famous

port,

port, but being ſtopped up with ſands, was the cauſe of its great decay.

The ſaid author obſerves, that it is a burgh of ſuch antiquity that the royal archives and records give no account of it; the ſcite of it ſuch, that he thinks the Romans had a place of defence here, ſome of their coin being found here, and a Conſtantine being brought to him.

That the ſea had formerly its courſe near to, and came up probably to the town, appears in ſome meaſure from its being drowned in winter, frequently on ſpring tides the ſalt water overflowing the banks, between this town and Babingly; and from the name of a ſtreet, that comes up to this town from the low ground, called by the inhabitants at this day, Haven-Gate Lane, which is very ouſy, and in this lane there was ſome years paſt, in digging, taken up a piece of an anchor belonging to ſome ſhip.

In the 31ſt of Elizabeth, on the 1ſt of Auguſt, a ſurvey of this lordſhip was made by ſir Nicholas Bacon, knt. John Hill, eſq. one of the auditors of the exchequer, Robert Buxton, eſq. and Robert Shepherd, gent. commiſſioners appointed by that queen to ſurvey this manor, part of the lands of Philip earl of Arundel, attainted and convicted; who on the oaths of Henry Mordant, gent. Thomas Winde, gent. Thomas Spratt, gent. Joſeph Wright, gent. and fifteen others, preſent and affirm, that the town of Caſtle-Riſing is an ancient burgh, and hath in it a mayor and burgeſſes: and many antient privileges, franchiſes and liberties have been granted to Hugh de Albini, earl of Suſſex and Arundel, ſome time lord of the manor, which privileges

vileges have been heretofore found by diverſe inquiſitions, viz.

Firſt, 'Tis granted to this ſaid earl and his heirs, his ſtewards and tenants, from this time to be quit and free of pannage, tallage, paſſage, payage, laſtage, ſtallage, portage, peſage and terrage, through the parts of England. Alſo that they ſhall have a mayor, that by them ſhall be choſen, and be preſented to the earls and his ſteward.

They ſhall ſell, or give their burgages to whom they will, without any gain-ſaying.

If a burgeſs die, the next heir ſhall enter into burgage without any gain-ſaying.

The lord ſhall not have the cuſtody or the heir of a burgager, but his kin, or next couſin by the mother's ſide.

Their heirs ſhall marry themſelves whereſoever they like.

If ſeizure of a burgage be made, it ſhall be by the bailiffs, and keepers of the market.

They ſhall take for their debts, in the town of Riſing and without, as far as the warren ſtretches.

They ſhall diſtrain no burgeſs within his burgage.

If actions, or ſtrife, ſhall happen between burgeſs and burgeſs, in the town or without, the mayor ſhall have them attached; ſhall ſet them a day until the Monday next, and before him ſhall their tales be told and brought.

If

If their tales happen not to be appeals of felony, or of a deadly wound, or ſuch other as longeth to the crown.

Alſo full amercement, in court, the burgeſs that is guilty and hath treſpaſſed, ſhall make to the mayor; and that ſhall he preſent to the ſteward, or lord's bailiff, and they ſhall do therein their wills.

If the lord will have any burgeſs in his ſervice, he ſhall find him reaſonable expences.

They ſhall not ſerve to the hundred, or ſhire, they ſhall not be put upon aſſize.

They ſhall not be diſtreſſed by bailiffs of the hundred.

They ſhall not be accuſed at the view of frankpledge for anſwer, but he that treſpaſſes for that pledge ſhall make amends.

If the ſon of a burgeſs ſhall enter into frankpledge, that is to ſay the lete, he ſhall not pay, and he ſhall have free entry into the common paſtures of the town.

The burgeſſes have grant of a fair, or free mart, from the feaſt of St. Matthew, during fifteen days; and two markets in the week, Monday and Thurſday.

They ſhall give no cuſtom in the market of Riſing, of their corn that comes out of their barns, or any other thing that they buy to their proper uſe in the ſaid market, and they ſhall do no ſuit.

If

If any burgeſs be a merchant, and put any thing to the market of Riſing to ſell, he ſhall give half cuſtom, except bakers, who ſhall give whole cuſtom to the lord.

Alſo they ſhall give no cuſtom, or uſage, in the havens of the lord in the marſh.

If any burgeſs be ſummoned before the lord, or his ſteward, his ſummons ſhall be made by the mayor, and by none other.

If the lord makes his eldeſt ſon a knight, or his eldeſt daughter be married, then the burgeſſes ſhall give him reaſonable help, elſe not.

The ſervants of the lord ſhall not take the geeſe, capons, or fiſh or fleſh, meat or drink, at their wills, without leave of the burgeſſes, and without their conſent.

Alſo they ſhall have all their meaſures the ſame as at Norwich.

That the warren hath been by the ſpace of two or three years paſt greatly ſurcharged, the warrener being covenanted to leave for his view, three thouſand eight hundred coneys; he has killed the laſt year ſeventeen thouſand, and may kill for this year as many, or more, his number for view being treble reſerved; and by this the caſtle ſtock of ſix hundred weathers is utterly overthrown, and the inhabitants and tenants of the towns adjoining injured, which will be an occaſion of impairing her majeſty's rent, and the undoing of the inhabitants, &c. and that by the increaſe of theſe conies by the warrener, and their breeding in the caſtle ditches and banks, the

ſame

ſame are decayed, and the walls are already in part, and the reſt in danger of overthrowing; that the ſaid banks and ditches are no parcel of the warren, and that the conſtablery of the caſtle is no part of the warren of Riſing, and that the burgh, and the cloſes belonging, &c. are alſo no part of the warren.

By this preſentment it appears that Hugh de Albini, earl of Arundel and Suſſex, had a charter for many royal privileges and liberties, with that of a mayor, in this lordſhip, and this muſt be in ſome year between 1233, (the earl being then a minor) and 1242, in which year he died.

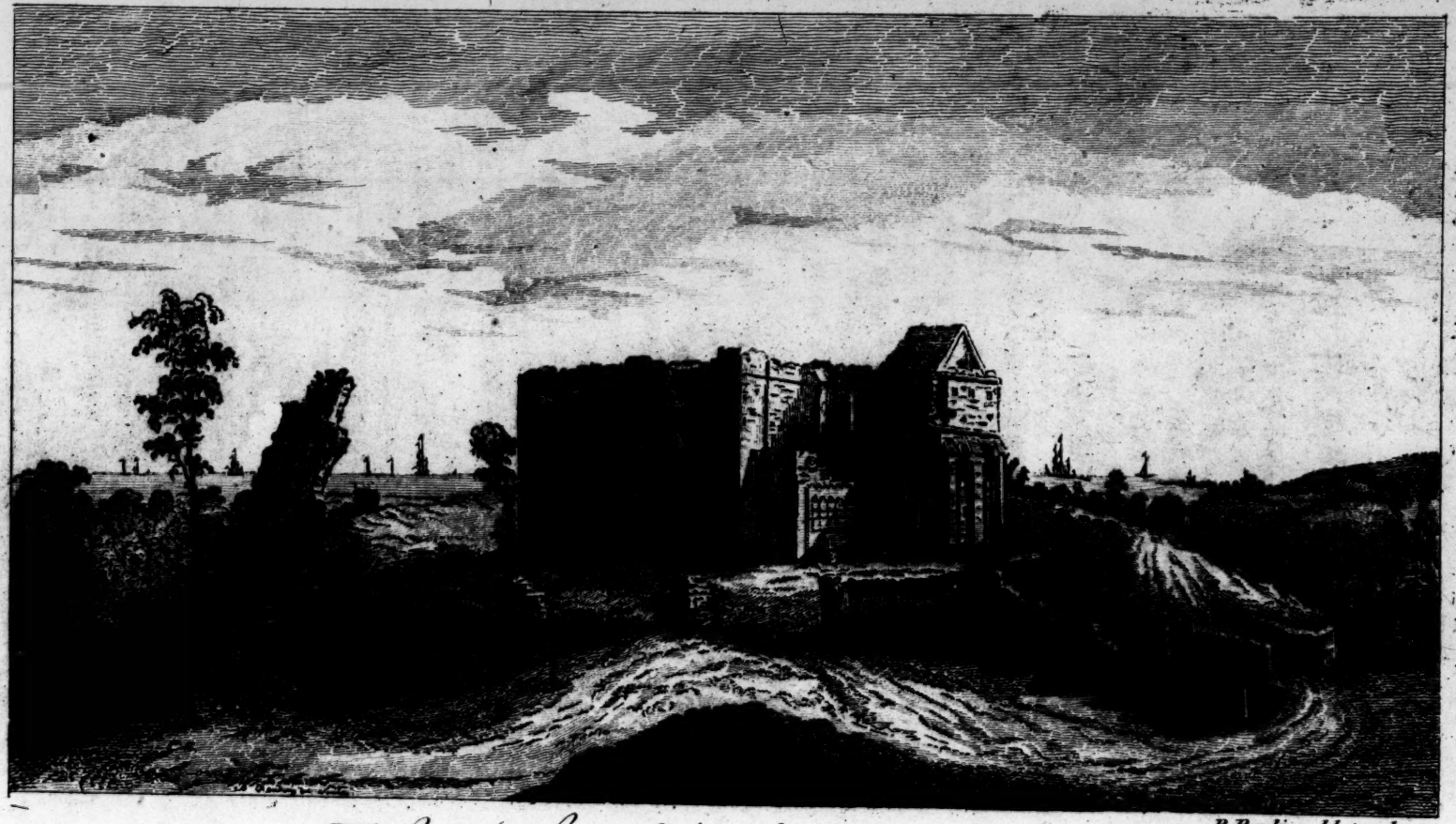
This ancient burgh, the mayor of which is always called over firſt and before the mayors of any other borough in the county, at the reading the king's commiſſion of the peace before the judges of the aſſize, a ſtrong proof of its ſuperior antiquity, was formerly governed by a mayor, recorder, high ſteward, twelve aldermen, a ſpeaker of the commons, and fifty (ſome ſay ſeventy) burgeſſes; at preſent the corporation conſiſts of two aldermen, who are alternately mayors. The burgeſſes who elect the two repreſentatives in parliament with the mayor and aldermen, the mayor returning officer, are ſeldom upon the poll more than five or ſix, and the burgage tenures are the property of the earls of Suffolk and Orford.

The mayor is choſen annually, the day before St. Michael, by the free burghers, or voters, who were about ſixty or ſeventy in number in 1716, but he is not ſworn into his office till the court lete, which is held about All Saints Day, and has a mace carried before him to church on Sundays by a ſerjeant, and on other public occaſions.

The



RISING CASTLE.



B. Reading del et sculp.

To the Right Hon.ble the Earl of Suffolk.

The ſeal of the corporation, or mayor, is a caſtle.

The caſtle of Riſing was built after the grant of the town and lordſhip by king William II. to William de Albini, that king's pincerna, or butler, and probably by his ſon William, the firſt earl of Suſſex, who died in 1176. It ſtands upon a hill, on the ſouth ſide of the town, from whence is a fine proſpect over land, and an arm of the ſea: great part of the walls of the keep, or inward tower, are ſtill ſtanding, being a Gothic pile, much reſembling that of Norwich, and little inferior, the walls being about three yards thick, conſiſting chiefly of free-ſtone, with iron, or car ſtone, encompaſſed with a great circular ditch and bank of earth, on which ſtood alſo a ſtrong ſtone wall, as appears from the preſentment above mentioned in the 31ſt of Elizabeth, when the wall on the ſaid bank is ſaid to be in part, and the reſt in danger of being overthrown by the warreners conies. This ditch, now dry, was probably formerly filled with water; there is but one entrance to it, on the eaſt ſide, over a ſtrong ſtone bridge, about thirty paces long, (with a gate-houſe thereon) about eight or nine paces broad, and is ſupported by one arch.

The inward part of the caſtle, or keep, is all in ruins, except one room, where the court lete of this lordſhip is held; no doubt the apartments here were grand and ſumptuous, when queen Iſabel here reſided, and when the great king Edward III. with his queen and court were often entertained, and lodged here.

On the walls which are decaying, having no cover, were towers, or turrets, which the lords of the manors

manors of Hunſtanton, Roydon, and the Woottons, were by their tenures obliged to guard and defend. The compaſs of the ditch that incloſes the whole is above one thouſand and eighty paces.

It ſeems to have been by its ſcite a place of ſtrength and conſequence. In the 18th of Edward II. September 22, that king ſent his precept to the lord Montalt, the lord of it, to have great care and guard of it, on account of the approach of Mortimer.

Mortimer, the great favourite of the queen, making his eſcape out of the Tower of London in the preceding month, was then with her in France, and both preparing to land with an army in England, to dethrone this king, which they ſoon after effected.

Perſons famous for their gallantry in military affairs and actions, appear to have been honoured with the conſtableſhip and government of it.

Queen Iſabel, dowager of England, gave it, being lady of the manor and caſtle, to John de Herlyng, as appears by her patent.

"*ISABEL, by the grace of God, queen of England, "lady of Ireland, counteſs of Pontiffe, &c. to "whom theſe preſents ſhall come greeting.*"

"KNOW ye, that We, for the good and faith-"ful ſervice which our beloved ſervant John of "Herlyng, hath long ſince performed to our thrice "dear ſon the king, and likewiſe to Us, have grant-"ed to the ſaid John, for the term of his life, the "conſtableſhip and guard of our caſtle of Riſing, "and to be ſurveyor of our chace there, he receiv-

"ing

" ing of Us the ſaid offices during his life, every " day 12d. of the profits of our manor there, by " the hands of our bailiff and provoſt for the time " being; wherefore we command all them whom it " ſhall any ways concern, that to the ſaid John, as " to our conſtable, guardian, and ſurveyor there, " they be attending and reſpondent in the manner " as appertains to the ſaid offices. In teſtimony of " which, we have cauſed theſe our letters patent to " be drawn."

" Given at our caſtle of Hertford, the 6th day of " November, in the 20th year of the reign of our " aforeſaid deare ſon the king."

After this, Edward prince of Wales confirmed the ſame in the following manner.

" WE, for the affection we beare to the perſon of " the ſaid John Herlyng, &c. at his requeſt confirm " to him the grant which our ſaid lady and grand- " mother hath made, &c. and beſides, in conſidera- " tion of the contumelies and hardſhips the ſaid " John hath, from day to day, in the ſervice of our " ſaid lord and father, the king; and being there- " fore willing for that cauſe to ſhew him more eſpe- " cial favour, We do, and grant, &c. to the ſaid " John, in caſe the ſaid caſtle and manor ſhould " come into our hands, by the deceaſe of our ſaid " lady and grandmother, &c. the reverſion being in " Us, the ſaid conſtableſhip, &c. to hold for the " terme of his life, &c."

" In witneſs whereof, We have cauſed theſe our " letters to be made patent. Given at London un- " der our privy ſeale, the 21ſt day of July, in the

"reign of our ſaid lord and father the king of "England, the 27th, and of France the 14th."

King Edward III. alſo approved and ratified the ſaid letters patent; witneſſes, the king, at Weſtminſter, &c.

The aforeſaid John de Herlyng, knt. was a famous ſoldier, remarkable for his ſkill in maritime affairs, and had the cuſtody of the ſea coaſts about Briſtol in 1342: he was lord of Eaſt Harling in Norfolk.

In the 6th year of king Henry IV. John Wodehouſe occurs conſtable, who was remarkably famous in the following reign at the battle of Agincourt in France.

Ralph lord Cromwell, was conſtable in the reign of Henry VI. The ſaid king, in his 27th year, granted to Thomas Daniel, eſq. the office of conſtable, keeper of the foreſt, chace, or warren, then held by Ralph lord Cromwell, on the death of the ſaid lord, or on rendering up his letters patent, or any other way, when they ſhall be vacant, to him the ſaid Thomas, and to his heirs lawfully begotten, to receive the ſame fees and perquiſites, &c. as the ſaid Ralph holds; dated at Canterbury, the 8th of September. This Thomas was afterwards made a knight, and married Margaret, daughter of ſir Robert Howard, and ſiſter of John, the firſt duke of Norfolk of that family. He is ſaid to have been attainted in the 1ſt of Edward IV. but was afterwards reſtored in blood and poſſeſſions, in the 14th of that king.

The date of this patent ſeems to deſtroy the tradition that queen Iſabel was cloſe priſoner for life, at

at the caſtle of Riſing, by the words recited therein:

"Given at our caſtle of Hertford the 6th day of "November, in the 20th year of the reign of our "aforeſaid deare ſon the king."

'Tis probable the queen reſided alternately at different caſtles, though ſhe might continue a ſtate priſoner during life. By this queen our ſovereign derives the honorary title of King of France, her right to the crown of France being not to be controverted, but on the principle of the Salique Law, "that "the crown ſhould not deſcend to females."

Queen Iſabel was daughter to Philip the Fair, king of France, and ſiſter to Lewis Hutin, Philip the Long, and Charles the Fair, all kings of France ſucceſſively, and all her three brothers died without iſſue; but the French would not admit her to the crown on pretence of an old fundamental law, mentioned before, the Salique Law, but advanced to the crown Philip Valois, whoſe father was younger brother to Philip the Fair, thereby excluding king Edward III. to whom, in right of his mother Iſabel, the crown of France regularly devolved: in maintenance of which right king Edward III. made war upon the French, and ſailing firſt to Antwerp, there aſſumed the title of king of France, and quartered the *fleurs de lis* with the lions and arms of England.

In the 34th of Henry VI. Thomas lord Scales had a patent to be governor, or conſtable, and appointed to reſide there for its better ſafeguard.

In the firſt of Henry VII. John Vere, earl of Oxford, was made conſtable of the caſtle, ſteward of

the honour of Riſing, and ranger of the chace for life, who commanded the vanguard in the battle of Boſworth, wherein king Richard III. was ſlain.

In the time of king Henry VIII. ſir Henry Marny, lord Marny, was conſtable, and had 13l. 8s. per ann. fee allowed him: it is reaſonable to ſuppoſe, it was at that time in a good ſtate and condition. This lord Marny was one of the chief commanders under Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk, on his taking Montdidier in France, in the 15th of Henry VIII. He had alſo 40s. per ann. as ſteward of this lordſhip, and 4l. 11s. 3d. per ann. as ranger of the chace, and 53s. 4d. per ann. for two under foreſters, or walkers.

Near to the caſtle on the ſouth ſide ſtood a chapel, for the ſervice of the lord, &c. now in ruins.

The town is remarkable alſo for an hoſpital built by Henry Howard, earl of Northampton. In the accounts of Owen Shepherd, gent. in the 6th of king James I. receiver of the lands, &c. of the ſaid earl, he accounts for 451l. 14s. 2d. *ob.* paid in that year to Richard Hovell, junior, eſq. for building this alms-houſe.

It ſtands near to the eaſt end of the church-yard, and is a ſquare building, containing twelve rooms or apartments for twelve poor women, and one good room for the governeſs, with a ſpacious hall and kitchen, and a decent chapel, which projects from the reſt on the eaſt ſide. The letters patent for the foundation bear date June 1, in the 13th year of the aforeſaid king.

It is endowed with 100l. per ann. out of lands lying in Riſing, Roydon, South and North Wootton, and Gaywood; alſo with 5l. every fifth year from an hoſpital in Greenwich, founded by the ſaid earl, for a ſtock or fund to repair it.

Their monthly allowance is eight ſhillings each, and the governeſs has twelve ſhillings; but on certain feſtival days appointed by the founder, viz. All Saints, Chriſtmas, New Year, Epiphany, Purification, St. Matthias, (which is the founder's birthday) Annunciation, Eaſter Day, Aſcenſion, Whit-Sunday, Trinity Sunday, St. John Baptiſt's and St. Michael's day, they have an addition of one ſhilling to the governeſs, and eight-pence to every poor woman. Every year each poor woman, and the governeſs, have for their conſtant apparel a gown of ſtrong cloth, or kerſey, of a dark colour; and every ſeventh year a livery gown, (and a hat) of blue broad cloth, lined with bays, with the founder's badge or cognizance ſet on the breaſt, being a lion rampant, argent, embroidered. The governeſs is allowed two chaldron of coals per ann. and the reſt one chaldron each. They are obliged to be regularly and conſtant at the church of Riſing on Sundays, and at their own chapel every day at nine in the morning and three in the afternoon, by the toll of a bell, where the governeſs reads prayers: they are alſo enjoined to uſe certain prayers, appointed by their founder, morning and evening, in their own apartments, and not to go out without the leave of the governeſs.

The qualifications required on admiſſion are:—They muſt be of an honeſt life and converſation; religious, grave, and diſcreet; able to read, if ſuch a one may be had; a ſingle woman, her place to be

void upon marriage; to be fifty-ſix years of age at leaſt; no common beggar, harlot, ſcold, drunkard, haunter of taverns, inns, or ale-houſes; to loſe their places if, after admiſſion, any lands deſcend to them of the value of 5l. per ann. or goods to the value of 50l. To go to prayers three times every day, and to ſay the Lord's prayer, the creed, and a prayer ordered by the founder; to go to church morning and evening every Sunday and holiday, and Wedneſday and Friday.

On being guilty of atheiſm, hereſy, blaſphemy, faction in the hoſpital, injury, or diſgracing the aſſiſtants, neglect of duty, or miſbehaviour in the performance of duty, to do any thing to the hurt or prejudice of the hoſpital, is expulſion.

The duty of the governeſs is to preſerve the houſhold ſtuff of the hoſpital, to take care of the ſick, to cauſe the gates to be ſhut morning and evening at due hours; to deliver out the blue gowns every Sunday and holiday morning, and to receive the ſame back again at night; to ring the bell every morning and evening for prayers, to ſhut the gates at prayer time; to look to the reparations of the hoſpital, that not ſo much as one ſtone be miſſing, either in the walls or upon the hoſpital, by the ſpace of a month; to keep the piece of ground on the north weſt ſide of the hoſpital next adjoining to the walls, and to preſerve the trees; to keep her garden plot fair and handſome, to reſide conſtantly there, not to lie abroad without licence, nor above ſeven days (with licence) in any one year; to give ſecurity in 20l. penalty upon her admiſſion, for the performance of duty, the ſecurity to be given to the mayor of Riſing. She is alſo to read prayers appointed in the chapel twice every day, not to permit

mit any ſtranger to lie in the hoſpital, to dine and ſup with the poor women in the hall on feſtival days.

The offences of the governeſs, by the ſtatutes of the founder, are to be certified to the earl of Arundel, or his heir, (who is now the earl of Suffolk) by two of the aſſiſtants, and then the earl to take order therein, by expulſion, or otherwiſe, as he ſhall think fit.

If the earl of Arundel, or his next heir, within ſixty days after a certificate ſent to him of a death or removal, does not appoint a new governeſs, or poor woman, then the mayor of Lynn is to do it.

Here was alſo a famous chace for deer, and a warren belonging to this lordſhip.

In the 39th of Elizabeth great diſputes aroſe about the bounds and limits of them, between Ann counteſs of Arundel, widow of Philip earl of Arundel, and William Cobbe, eſq. Henry Spelman, &c. and other neighbouring lords of manors, this lordſhip being part of her jointure; and in the ſaid year depoſitions were taken at Lynn, on the 26th of July, before Thomas Fermer, Richard Stubbs, John Willoughbye, and William Guybon, eſq.

John Jeffrey, of Riſing caſtle, labourer, aged 76, then depoſed that he had known Riſing chace and warren ſixty years; that he dwelt in Wootton and Riſing all his life, and boundeth the limits, purlieu, or walks of the chace, thus:

From Riſing to Babingly mill, from thence to Rattleman's Lane, ſo to Hall Lane, ſo to Butler's

Croſs, ſo in a green way leading to Newton, ſo to Wade's mill, ſo ſouthward down a way leading to Capp mill, ſo to Pedders lane, or way, ſo to Gatton, ſo to Hillington bridge, ſo ſouthward over the moor to Homeſton, ſo into Ruſton's Lane, ſo to two lanes the names he remembereth not, ſo ſouthward to Bone's bridge, ſo along the river to Weyvelinge houſe, ſo along the river to Bawſey dike, ſo by the old river to Bawſey water, and ſo along the river to Gaywood bridge.

And further ſaith, that ſo much of the ground as lieth in the towns of Riſing, North and South Wootton, Ryfflye, Grimſton, Wyvelingham and Roydon, are within the limits of the chace, and have been reputed, uſed, lett, &c. as parcel of the ſaid chace.

He ſaith alſo that the bounds and limits of the ſaid warren, extend from Roydon to Hall-Hill, and ſo near to Roydon church, and thence down a way to Hillington Cawſey, thence to Querne Hill, and ſo to Wardyke; and he ſaith, that the keepers, &c. have at their wills, uſed to chaſe and rechaſe the deer within the ſaid limits; that in the nine acres there were burrowing a thouſand conies and divers falls; that the warreners have at their wills, until now of late, quietly and peaceably hunted, hayed, ſerited, digged, killed, and carried away all ſuch conies as bred and burrowed upon the nine acres, Congham Lyings and Moor; and that the warreners always paid tithe conies thereon to the parſons of Congham, and he never heard any farm conies to Mr. Spilman, or any other for the nine acres and Congham Lyings. He ſaith Mr. Waller's grounds begin at King's Thorn, where ſome time was great ſtore of conies, and ſo ſouthward to the ſaid pits, ſo to Hall-Hill, ſo to the hangings of Goldworthy Hill,

Hill, unto the ſouth ſide thereof, and never knew it ploughed but by Mrs. Waller: he knoweth the grounds in Mrs. Waller's occupation in Roydon, extending to Shepherd's Hill, with all Roydon Lyings, and ſo to Skegney Fen, and thence to Roydon Shrubbs, and ſo to Eleven Herne, called Roydon Common; and ſaith in both theſe places laſt bounded in Roydon, the warreners uſed like liberty as before in Congham nine acres and Lyings; and paid tithe conies to the parſon of Roydon; that in Wyveling grounds uſed the like liberty as in any other part of the warren, without any interruption, until now of late years; he depoſeth the ſame of South Wootton grounds, and of Great Cromer's cloſe, and Little Cromer's cloſe, both which lie in Riſing.

The church of Riſing is an antient pile, built in a conventual manner, with a tower between the body of it and the chancel, which laſt is now in ruins, the walls only of part of it being ſtanding; alſo a ſouth croſs iſle joining to the tower, which is entirely in ruins. The weſt end is adorned with antique carving and ſmall arches; in the tower are three bells, but one is ſplit; the roof of the church is flat, covered with lead, long but narrow, and is dedicated to St. Lawrence.

There are no inſcriptions in the church.

In the porch was a grave-ſtone, with part of an inſcription, viz. *Iſabellæ Reginæ*, in memory no doubt of ſome of that queen's ſervants, or retinue, which induced ſome perſons to fancy that ſhe herſelf was here buried.

It pays no procurations, only ſynodals; being exempt from all epiſcopal juriſdiction, and archidiaconal,

nal, except induction by the archdeacon of Norwich, and the patronage is in the lord of the manor. The rector has the probate of wills, not as rector, but as commiſſary, nominated by the lord of the manor, derived as 'tis ſaid from a Norman cuſtom, rather claimed by the lord, in right of his caſtle.

CONGHAM. That is, a ham or dwelling by the river Cong, as called by the antient Britons; thus Congleton alſo, a town in Cheſhire.

CONGHAM MANOR. After various deſcents this manor came to the Paſtons, and John Paſton, ſon and heir of William Paſton, in 1446 releaſed to Thomas Daniel, eſq. and his heirs, all his right herein; the ſaid Thomas preſented as lord in 1448, and in 1475. Henry Wodehouſe preſented as lord, and ſir Edmund Wodehouſe in 1479; after this ſir Henry Colet in 1482 and 1487, probably as a truſtee or morgagee, (he was a citizen and lord mayor of London) for in 1504, and 1522, ſir Thomas Wodehouſe was lord and patron; and in the 31ſt of Hen. VIII. this manor was conveyed by Thomas Wodehouſe, eſq. to H. Jordon, gent. who preſented in 1552; and from him to Humphry Baſtard, who was lord in 1580. Humphry, in the 26th of Elizabeth, releaſed to William Bladwell, of Thurlow Magna in Suffolk, all his right herein; but in 1595 Henry Spelman, eſq. was lord and patron, and afterwards his ſon, ſir Henry Spelman, who was born here, a gentleman of eminent worth and fame at this day, for his learning and knowledge in antiquity; as appears from his works that are publiſhed by Dr. Gibſon, biſhop of London, with his life, &c.

He was ſon of Henry Spelman, eſq. of this town, by Frances, his firſt wife, daughter of William Saunders,

ders, of Ewell in Surry, eſq. ſecond ſon of ſir John Spelman, knight, of Narborurgh, ſecond judge of the king's bench, by Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Henry Frowick, of Gunnerſbury in Middleſex. Sir Henry, by his wife Eleanor, eldeſt daughter and coheir of John L'Eſtrange, of Sedgeford in Norfolk, had ſir John Spelman, his ſon and heir, and Clement Spelman, his ſecond ſon, a curſitor baron, &c. —Sir John, his eldeſt ſon, married Ann, daughter of ſir John Townſhend, of Rainham in Norfolk; was educated at Cambridge, (probably in Trinity college, where his father was a ſtudent) and wrote ſeveral learned treatiſes, as may be ſeen in Wood's Ath. Ox. vol. 2; and when king Charles I. retired to Oxford about 1642, he followed him, died there in Brazen Noſe college, of the camp diſeaſe, July 24, and was buried on the 26th of the ſaid month, 1643, in the church of St. Mary, at Oxford, leaving this character, that he was

Vir acerrimi judicii, ſummi ingenii, et probatiſſimæ morum ſuavitatis.

In 1638 ſir John preſented to the church of St. Andrew, as lord and patron; and in 1674 Roger Spelman, eſq. of Holme, who was his eldeſt ſon, and had a brother, Charles, who preſented in 1684; from whom it came to Charles Spelman, rector of the church of St. Andrew.

After this the manor was conveyed to the Mordaunts, ſir Charles Mordaunt, bart. of Maſſingham Parva, being the preſent lord.

Rusteyn's and Reed-Hall Manor. This manor was in poſſeſſion of Henry Spelman, eſq. in the reign of queen Elizabeth.

Anthony

Anthony Hammond, of Wootton, eſq. who married the ſiſter of ſir Robert Walpole, firſt earl of Orford, was lord in 1750. After him Richard Hammond, eſq. of Weſtacre, and the preſent lord is Anthony Hammond, of Weſtacre, his nephew.

TATISHALE'S, PETEGAR'S, or BELETER'S. The family of Cromwell, as heirs to Orreby, were capital lords of the fee; and Ralph de Cromwell, lord Tatiſhale, preſented to St. Mary's church in 1391; and in the 3d of Henry IV. Edmund Belzetter alias Belytter, Richard Chappe, and Richard Holditch, held half a fee of the lady Maud Cromwell.

The principal part or fee was, in 1487, in ſir Robert Ratclyff, who then preſented to the church aforeſaid; in 1517, in Thomas Windham, and Robert Drury, and continued in the Windhams ſeveral years, and came afterwards to ſir Henry Spelman, in whoſe family it remained.

But though the principal part was thus conveyed, yet a part of the Tatiſhale manor which was in the Thorps in the reign of Edward I. remained till conveyed by them to the L'Eſtranges.

Henry L'Eſtrange, of Hunſtanton, eſq. died poſſeſſed of the manor of Congham, and Maſſingham Parva, in 1483. John L'Eſtrange, his third ſon, died lord in 1517, and by the marriage of Barbara his only daughter, came to Robert Mordaunt, eſq. in which family it ſtill remains; ſir Charles Mordaunt, bart. being the preſent lord.—Barbara was his daughter by Margaret, daughter and coheir of ſir Thomas L'Eſtrange, of Walton D'Eivile, in Warwickſhire.

This

This manor is called corruptly at this day Petegar's, probably from Beleter, who was lord in Hen. IV's time.

The church of St. Andrew is a ſingle pile, covered with lead, and has a tower four-ſquare, embattled, and two bells. On the north ſide is a chapel, covered with tile; on the north wall of it is this inſcription:

Paterno juſſu Henri, et Johs. Spelman, milit. alam hanc pie inſtituit Rogs. Spelman, abſolvit autem Carolus Spelm. hujus eccles. tandem rector, Ao. Dni. 1686.

The chancel is tiled; and within the rails of the communion table lie ſeveral marble graveſtones:

H. S. E. Carolus Squire A. M. ſcholæ Lennenſis p. annos novem præceptor celebris, eccleſiæ hujus et de Maſſingham Pa. rector digniſſimus, ſacerdos doctus, pius, probus, vir varia et perpolita eruditione ornatus, hiſtoricis et humanioribus in literis maxime verſatus, amicus plane ſimplex, comes jucundiſſimus, deſideratiſſimus obt. 20 *Aug.* 1752, *ætat.* 56. *Marito optimo, uxor mœrens poſuit.*

On one with a braſs plate, *Hic requieſcunt Henricus Spelman, armiger, et Franciſca, uxor ejus filia Gulielmi. Saunder, armigi. qui habuerunt exitum inter eos clariſſimum doctiſſimumq; virum Hen. Spelman, militem, Eraſmum Sp. generoſum, et Elizab. filiam; dictoq. Henrico filio nati fuerunt p. Elianoram Le Strange uxor ejus unam filiarum et coheredum Johan Le Strange, armigeri,* 4 *filii &* 4 *filiæ, viz. Johs. Spelm. miles, qui duxit in uxorem Annam, filiam unicam Joh. Townſend, militis, Henr. et Francis. Spelman qui obierunt in vita patris ſine exitu, et Clem. Spelm. qui duxit in uxorem Martham*

Martham Maſon, unam ſiliarum et cohered. Franciſci Maſon, armigi. et Dorothea nupta Rano. Whitfeld, militi, uni ſervientum Dni. Caroli Regis ad legem, Anna nupta Tho. More, armigero, Kath. nupta Robo. Raworth, armigero, et Alicia nupta Johi. Smith, generoſo; dictus Henr. Spel. avus obt. 7 *Oct.* 1581, *dicta Franciſca ava,* 15 *Oct.* 1622.—Below this, *Here alſo lies the body of Roger Spelm. Eſq; ſon and heir of the abovenamed Sir John Spel. knight, who married the daughter and heireſs of Robert Strutt, of Lincoln's-Inn, Eſq; and died Novr.* 27, 1678. On the braſs the arms of Spelman; ſable, platee, between two flaunches, argent, impaling, ſable, a chevron, ermine, between three bulls heads, argent, Sanders.

One *In memory of Charles Spelman, ſon of Roger Spelm. Eſq; who died March* 3, 1684; with the arms of Spelman.

Another *For Barbara, relict of Henry Mordaunt, Eſq; who died Decr.* 25, 1690.

On one with a braſs plate *Hic et hac pro tempore quieſcunt reliquiæ Tho. Bendiſh Rici. de Eſſex, armigeri, et Rici. Barb. Edwi Thomæ liber. quorum oſſibus et memoriæ Elizabetha Dudleyorum proſapia mærens relicta P. E. obt. Junii* 13 *Ao. Dni* 1632 *ætat. ſuæ* 33.

On the ſouth ſide of the chancel, a graveſtone with the arms of Mordaunt, impaling L'Eſtrange, *In memory of L'Strange Mordant, ſon of Henry Mordant, a grandſon of Sir L'Strange Mordant of Norff. bt. by Barbara his wife, daughter of Richd. Catlyn, Eſq; he had iſſue Henry and a daughter Barbara, and died Decr.* 4, *in the* 63*d year of his age,* 1691, *here alſo lieth Barbara his relict, who died Apr.* 4, 1729, *aged* 86.

In

In the church yard a monument *In memory of Richd. ſon of Rd. Catlyn, Eſq; of Kirby Cane, in Norff. who died July* 12, 1711, *born May* 8, 1636, *and was one of the ſociety of Lincoln's Inn;* with the arms of Catlyn.

The preſent rector is the Rev. Edmund Nelſon. His predeceſſor was the Rev. Charles Squire, maſter of the free grammar ſchool at Lynn, and ſon of Benjamin Squire, formerly rector of Great Maſſingham. A man of learning, and a polite ſcholar, and whoſe character is deſcribed with as much truth as elegance in the epitaph upon his ſtone in Congham church.—(ſee p. 117.)

There were formerly three churches, Congham, Congham St. Andrew, and Congham All Saints.

This rectory was conſolidated to Congham St. Andrew, in 1684; the church is dilapidated, the rector receives all the tithes of the three Conghams, and pays 20l. per ann. to the impropriator of All Saints.

DERSINGHAM. The town takes its name from Der, or Dur, a Britiſh word, ſignifying water, as Derby, Dereham, Durham, &c. and the Saxon words Ing, a meadow, and Ham, a dwelling, all which anſwer to its ſcite.

PAKENHAM MANOR. In the 3d of Henry VII. ſir John Windham granted by fine the manor of Pakenham-hall, to John Fox and Catherine his wife, for the uſe of John Fox his ſon; and William Rogers had an intereſt herein, and held it *in capite*, in the 1ſt of queen Mary, and gave it, as is ſaid, by his laſt will to the poor of Norwich; and before this,

this, in 1425, John Church, of Baſſingbourn, eſq. and Joan his wife, confirmed to Henry Walpole, of Houghton, and William Yelverton, gent. the manor of Pakenham in Derſingham, which came to them by the death of William Adderton, eſq. her father, and Joan his wife.

Afterwards it came to the Cobbes of Sandringham, who were lords in the 7th of Elizabeth, and to the Hoſtes, Dixon Hoſte, eſq. ſon of Theodore Hoſte, eſq. ſecond ſon of James Hoſte, eſq. of Sandringham, is the preſent lord, and alſo of Snaringhall and has the lete of the town.

Binham Priory Manor. Peter de Valoins, on his foundation of this priory, when he gave lands and two parts of his tithe to it, gave riſe to this lordſhip, to which gift Hugh de Derſingham, and Picotus his brother, were witneſſes.

Chriſtiana de Mandeville, counteſs of Eſſex, for the ſouls health of William de Mandeville, earl of Eſſex, and of Reymund de Burgo, her late huſband, gave 40s. rent per ann. in land and heath, with certain homages, &c. and ſhe demiſed to perpetual farm, a capital meſſuage, with ſixty acres of land here, to the priory; the prior agreeing to pay ſeventeen marks per ann. to the chaplains of St. Nicholas, in the court of Shering, in Eſſex, where ſhe then lived. Edward I. granted licence to alien the lands to that chapel which Alexander de Baliol, ſon of Henry, had granted to Chriſtiana Valoins, his aunt, after the death of the lady Lora, his mother, and Guy his brother, in exchange for lands in Heyham and Walthamſtow, in Eſſex; Alexander's deed is dated at Ware *A°.* 56th of Henry III. and Dugdale obſerves, that this lord was one of the coheirs

to

to Chriſtiana aforeſaid, who died about the 22d of Henry III.

William, ſon of William de Derham, gave a marſh called Cheſholm, and Thomas Lording, of Derſingham, lands. Iſabella de Derham held the third part of a fee of Valoins, in Henry III's time.

Richard de Secford, prior of Binham, and the convent, exchanged lands here with ſir Thomas de Gelham, lying near the chapel of St. Andrew in Derſingham: in the deed is an account of eighty-ſix acres, &c. of land, one hundred and eight of paſture, eight acres, &c. of meadow, demean lands belonging to the prior, with rents and cuſtoms, by deed *ſans* date; and in the 39th of Edward III. a conſiderable part of the manor of Pakenham was conveyed to it.

The temporalties of this priory in this town were valued, in 1428, at 4l. 13s. 8d. At the diſſolution king Henry VIII. granted it, in his 33d year, to ſir Thomas Paſton, who had licence to alienate it in his 36th year, to John Rokewood and his heirs; but in the following year, ſir Thomas Paſton, and Agnes his wife, Richard Heydon, eſq. and Nicholas Rokewood, gent. conveyed by fine this manor, with four hundred acres of land, ſixty of meadow, two hundred of paſture, ſix of wood, two hundred of marſh, with liberty of a fold in Derſingham and Ingoldeſthorp, with 100s. rent per ann. and the advowſon of the vicarage, to Robert Read, gent. who dying February 27, *ao.* 1. Mary, Thomas Read his ſon ſucceeded, who had licence 17th of Elizabeth, to alienate a meſſuage, one hundred and eighty acres of land, with a foldage called Eſtling Courſe, to Chriſtopher Walpole, and the manor to Jeffrey Cobbe, eſq. and ſo it

came to the Hoſtes; and Dixon Hoſte, eſq. of Ingoldeſthorpe, is the preſent lord.

GELHAM HALL. So called from a family who held lands of the capital lords, the Valoins, and in ancient deeds are found witneſſes to ſeveral of their donations.

Sir Thomas de Gelham of this town, had licence to build a free chapel in Derſingham church-yard, in May 1264, and to appoint a maſter or chaplain, from Adam de Mota, then prior of Binham. John de Gelham had a *quietus*, in the 56th of Henry III. for two years, when he was to take the order of knighthood; and one of the ſame name was lord in the 9th of Edward II. William de Gelham ſeems to be the laſt of that family, and died in the reign of Edward III. when it was divided amongſt his daughters and coheirs.

In the 27th of the ſaid king, a fine was levied between ſir Richard Walkfare, knight, and John de Repps and Elizabeth, who conveyed to Richard a third part of this manor.

Sir Richard Walkfare, ſome time before his death, gave his right herein to certain feoffees; and on his death it came to ſir Thomas Felton, and the lady Joan his wife. Sir Thomas died poſſeſſed of it about the 5th of Richard II. then knight of the garter, and left three daughters and coheirs; Mary, wife of ſir Edmund Hengrave; Sibilla, wife of —— de Morlay; and Alianore, wife of ſir John L'Eſtrange, of Hunſtanton, which ſir John L'Eſtrange and his lady, conveyed to Joan her mother this manor, with thoſe of Ryburgh Magna and Parva, in the 8th of that king, by fine. Soon after this, the lady Catherine

rine Brews, a nun, daughter and heir of ſir Thomas de Norwich, had an intereſt in it.

From the time of Henry VIII. there is no certain account of the deſcent of this manor, till it came to Jeffrey Cobbe in the 21ſt of Charles I. and ſo to the late Theodore Hoſte, eſq. as heir male to his brother, James Hoſte, eſq. of Sandringham, and Dixon Hoſte, eſq. his eldeſt ſon, is the preſent lord.

SHOULDHAM PRIORY MANOR. Chriſtiana counteſs of Mandeville, gave conſiderable lands and poſſeſſions in this town, to this priory.

At the diſſolution it was granted, May 5, in the 36th of Henry VIII. to John Dethick, eſq. who in the 38th had licence to alien it to John Pell and his heirs; and by an inquiſition taken at Lynn, October 8, in the 2d and 3d of Philip and Mary, on the death of John Pell, gent. of Derſingham, who died April 4, in the ſaid year, he was found to die ſeiſed of it, held by the twentieth part of a fee; and that of Brookhall, held of the hundred of Freebridge, by fealty, and 12d. rent per ann. with ſix meſſuages, three hundred and twenty acres of land, one hundred and twenty of meadow, forty of paſture, fifty of furze and heath, in Derſingham, Shernbourne, and Ingoldeſthorpe, held of the manor of Pakenham-Hall, by 3d. rent and fealty; and John was his ſon and heir by Margaret his wife.

The aforeſaid John Pell, gent. by his will, dated September 16, 1554, requires to be buried in the church of Derſingham. John his ſon and heir married Margaret, daughter and heir of William Overend, eſq. and dying in 1607, left William Pell, eſq. his eldeſt ſon, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Wil-

liam Drury, of Fincham, eſq. his firſt wife was Elizabeth, daughter of —— Richers, of Swannington; Jeffrey Pell, his brother, married Catherine, daughter of Edward Read, of Eaſt Rudham: there was alſo another brother, Valentine, an attorney at Lynn, who died in 1623. Jeffrey Pell died in 1615, and left iſſue John Pell, eſq. who married Urſula, daughter of —— Gawſell, of Watlington, eſq. by whom, as ſome ſay, he had ſir Valentine Pell, &c. others made Valentine to be ſon of Jeffrey, who dying in 1658, left by Barbara his wife, daughter of ſir James Calthorpe, John Pell, his ſon and heir, who married Elizabeth, daughter of William Pert, of Mountneys in Eſſex, who died without iſſue; and captain William Pell, who married Ann, daughter of John Drury, of Holt-Houſe in Leziate, by Lynn, by whom he had John Pell, eſq. who married Ann, daughter of Thomas Wood, of Bracon-aſh in Norfolk, who died 1686, without iſſue; and Valentine Pell, eſq. who married Elizabeth, daughter of Iſaac Lane, of Walſingham, and on his death, *ſans* iſſue, gave this lordſhip by will, to Robert Walpole, eſq. father of ſir Robert Walpole, knight of the garter, and earl of Orford, whoſe grandſon, the preſent earl Orford, is lord of it.

There alſo appears to have been a little lordſhip called Snaring-Hall, held of Valoins, in the reign of Henry II. by Jeffrey de Snaring; and Philip, one of the family, in the reign of Henry III. held lands here. This manor is now in Dixon Hoſte, eſq.

West Hall Manor. The antient family of the Derſinghams, who lived here, probably held lands of this lordſhip.

Sir

Sir Robert de Tateſhale was found, in the 31ſt of Edward I. to have held *in capite*, one fee, which the prior of Binham held of him; and in the 33d of the ſaid king, —— Pakenham held the third part of a fee of the heirs of ſir Robert.

Of ſir John de Pakenham, who was ſteward to the biſhop of Ely, there is a remarkable account—That coming into the exchequer court, where the king (Henry III.) himſelf was ſitting, in the 39th of that king, he claimed a monſtrous fiſh taken on the land of one of the biſhop's wards, whoſe anceſtors claimed wreck at ſea: the king himſelf made anſwer, and ordered him to produce the charter by which he claimed, which being done, it was then aſked, if the fiſh was taken on the land or in the ſea, and it was anſwered in the ſea, not far from the land, and taken alive, ſix boats being overturned in the ſea before he could be caught: then the king replied, that ſince it was acknowledged that the fiſh was taken alive in the ſea, it could not be wreck, and he would further conſider of it; and the cauſe was adjourned to the parliament.

We mention this, as it contains ſome things worthy of our obſervation. Firſt, that the king himſelf ſat in the exchequer at this time, aſked queſtions, gave anſwers and judgment; ſecondly, that no perſon could claim wreck but by charter; and thirdly, that the cauſe was adjourned to the parliament: quere may be made, if this word parliament occurs in any record before this time.

In records before this, and till the reign of Edw. I. the word was *Concilium et Magnum Concilium*; but Matt. Paris ſays, this king called *Parliamentum Generaliſſimum, ao.* 30. *p.* 696.

In the reign of Henry VIII. this manor was held by ſir Thomas Paſton, from which time no account till it came to the Cobbes, and ſo to the Hoſtes, and Dixon Hoſte, eſq. is the preſent lord.

Brook Hall or Old Hall. The family of Brokediſh were antiently lords of this, under the Tateſhales. Thomas de Brokediſh poſſeſſed it in the beginning of king Henry III's reign; and in the 31ſt of that king, Richard le Butler had the cuſtody of lands here, belonging to Stephen de Brokediſh.

This manor was granted afterwards to ſir William Capel, lord mayor of London, and anceſtor to the earl of Eſſex, who died ſeiſed of it November 8, *ao.* 7th of Henry VIII. and ſir Giles Capel was his ſon and heir; he conveyed it, in the 32d of the ſaid king, to John Pell, gent. by fine, in which family it continued as in Shouldham priory manor, till left to the Walpoles, the earl of Orford being the preſent lord.

The church of Derſingham was dedicated to St. Nicholas, and was at firſt a rectory,

On the diſſolution of the priory of Binham it was granted to the ſee of Norwich, where the impropriation of the great tithes remain; the preſent counteſs of Orford has a leaſe of them from the biſhop, paying 20l, a year out of it to the vicar of Derſingham, which was ſettled for ever by biſhop Reynolds, formerly biſhop of this dioceſe.

The advowſon of the vicarage is in Dixon Hoſte, eſq. the preſent patron.

The

The church is a very large pile of flint, boulder, &c. as moſt of the churches of Norfolk are, with a large chancel; the nave and two iſles covered with lead, and the chancel with tile. At the weſt end of the nave is a ſtrong four-ſquare tower, with five bells, on that a lantern, with a bell, and a little ſhaft covered with lead.

On the ſouth ſide of the chancel is a mural monument, with the arms of Pell, in a lozenge, ermin, on a canton azure, a pelican vulning itſelf, or, impaling, p. pale, azure and gules, three ſaltires, argent, Lane.

Beneath in a vault reſt the remains of Mrs. Elizabeth Pell, lady of Booter's-hall manour, at Cranworth, in this county, widow, and relict of Valentine Pell, Eſq; grandſon of Sir Valentine Pell, Kt. the only daughter and heireſs of Iſaac Lane, late of Walſingham, Gent: a lady worthy of imitation, adorned with all the ornaments of vertue, her perſon and excellent qualifications rendered her greatly eſteemed by all that had the happineſs of her acquaintance. Her great charity in her life and at her death, will cauſe her name to be had in everlaſting remembrance, ſhe departed this life worthily lamented, the 22d of May in the year of our Lord 1732, *to whoſe pious and laſting memory, Mrs. Margaret Hodgſon, her dearly beloved friend and executrix, dedicated this monument. She gave* 100*l. to this pariſh, which is laid out for land in the pariſh, and given to the poor in bread and coals, and the ſame ſum to South Creake, where her father had gave the like ſum.*

Another mural monument with the arms of Hodgſon, in a lozenge—gules, three falcons, in a bordure.

This monument is erected to the memory of Mrs. Margaret Hodgſon, late of Booter's-hall, at Cranworth in this county, where ſhe departed this life the 2d of Dec. 1743, aged 67 years, and according to her own deſire lies interred in the ſame vault with Mrs. Eliz. Pell. She gave 5l. per ann. to this pariſh, to the churchwardens and overſeers, to take care of the vault and monuments, and keep them clean, and in repair, and what overplus annually to be diſtributed to objects of charity living in the ſaid pariſh, and charged the eſtate in Cranworth with it.

On an altar tomb, at the eaſt end of the ſouth iſle,

Memoriæ Sacrum—

Hic jacet Johannes Pell de Darſingham, armiger, quondâ major Linnæ Regis, qui uxorem duxit Margaretam, filiam unicam Gulielmi Overend, armigeri, annos 61 fæliciter una vixerunt, ſex filios et tres filias inter ſe habuerunt, Ille vero cum annos 80 compleverat quinto die Februarij, A°. Dni. 1607, matura ſenectute, mortem obijt et octavo die ejuſdem menſis corpus ſepulchro condebatur.

An atchievement, *In memory of the late wife of the late Dr. Kerrich*, and theſe arms, ſable, on a pile argent, a caltrap of the firſt, Kerrich, and in an eſcutcheon of pretence, a bugle horn, ſable, ſtringed gules, in baſe, a chevron of the ſecond, and in chief indented of the third, Poſtlethwait. She was daughter of archdeacon Poſtlethwait: her huſband, the Rev. Samuel Kerrich, D. D. was many years vicar of Derſingham; a clergyman much reſpected for his learning and amiable qualities. The preſent vicar is the Rev. Mr. Hey, fellow of Magdalen college, Cambridge.

John

John Pell, Eſq. died 1607.—*William, his eldeſt ſon died* 1635.—*John Pell, nephew of William,* 16**.—*Sir Valentine Pell died in* 1658.—*John Pell, Eſq. eldeſt ſon of Sir Valentine,* 1649.

On his grave-ſtone, Pell impaling ———, on a bend, three maſcles, died *s. p.*

John Pell, Eſq. his ſon, died 1686.—*Valentine Pell, Eſq. brother of John, died in* 1690, *and gave his manor here to Robert Walpole, Eſq. of Houghton.*——*Eliz. Pell died in* 1732.

FLITCHAM, or Pliceham, Plicham and Flicham, as it is wrote in Doomſday-book, taking its name not from Felix, biſhop of the Eaſt Angles, (as ſome have conceived) but from its ſcite, it not being the cuſtom of the Saxons to give names to towns from their lords, or any perſon; the ground here, as Spelman obſerves, abounds with ſprings and water; the priory was ſtiled on this account, St. Mary de Fontibus, at the ſprings; *Quod ab oriente fontes oſtendit aprico interdum meatu, interdum ſubterraneo ludentes;* therefore, from theſe flete ices, or waters, it takes its name; thus Flixton in Suffolk, &c. This is alſo called Fliceſwell in Doomſday-book.

The chief manor, and the greateſt part of this town, was granted to Roger Bigot, anceſtor of the earls of Norfolk.

Fulk de Beaufoe, who was lord in the reign of Henry II. dying without iſſue male, left four daughters and coheirs; Emme, who married Gilbert de Norfolk; Agatha, who married ſir Robert Aguillon; Joan, wife of Thomas de Ingaldeſthorp, and Margery, wife of Robert Scales. The two firſt of theſe had only an intereſt in this town.

Agatha,

Agatha, by ſir Robert Aguillon, left alſo four daughters and coheirs, between whom her moiety was divided; Agatha, wife of ſir Adam de Cockfield; Iſabel, of Luke de Poynings; Margery, of Jordan de Sackville, and after of ſir Giles de Argenton; and Joan, of ſir Ralph Fitz-Bernard.

POINING'S MANOR came to ſir Luke de Poynings, on his marriage with Iſabel, daughter and heir of Aguillon; and about the end of the reign of Henry III. Thomas de Poynings, Andrew de Sackville, Walter de Barnardeſton, and John de Rocheford, were found to hold in this town and Appleton, two fees of the honour of Arundel; and in the 8th of Edward I. a fine was levied between Luke de Poynings and Roger de Somercotes, and Maud his wife, relict of —— Poynings, father of Luke, as we take it, whereby Luke granted them the manor of Flitcham, for the life of Maud, with an annuity of one hundred ſhillings.

It continued in the family of the Poynings to the reign of Henry III. it was then demiſed to the family of Wodehouſe, where it remained till the reign of Henry VI.

In Henry VIII. it was conveyed to ſir William Holles, lord mayor of London, anceſtor of the Holles, dukes of Newcaſtle, who left it to his ſon Thomas.

Sir Thomas, in the 3d and 4th of Philip and Mary, paſſed it by fine to Henry Ward, with the lordſhip of Barneſton, or Barnardiſton, for 2900l. but his lady being jointured therein, and her father, Richard Payne, not agreeing to it, it came into that family, and from them to Thomas duke of Norfolk,

before

before his attainder in the reign of queen Elizabeth.

Philip earl of Arundel, his ſon and heir, demiſed it, in the 28th of that queen, to Richard Hovell, of Flitcham, gent. Flitcham houſe, late the ſcite of the priory, with all the appurtenances, and the manors called Poyning's, Cockfield's, Barnardiſton's, Eaſt-hall, and Snoring, the lands, fold-courſes, water-mills, &c. thereto belonging, in the tenure of the ſaid Hovell, for fifteen years, at the annual rent of 257l. 6s. 8d. he paying alſo to the biſhop of Norwich 6s. 8d. rent; to the dean and chapter 3s. 4d. and to the archdeacon 9s. 7d. *ob.* per ann. alſo to provide a curate for the church of Flitcham.

This earl being found guilty of high treaſon, and dying a priſoner in the tower of London, it came to the crown, and king James I. on February 14, in his firſt year, granted the priory houſe, and all the aforeſaid manors, with the impropriated rectory, to Richard Lockſmith and Robert Bolleyn, they paying 170l. 11s. 5d. fee-farm rent per ann, In his 6th year, it was granted, on February 12, to Henry Beck, Robert Bolleyn, &c. on the requeſt of ſir Chriſtopher Hatton. After this the ſaid king gave it to the earl of Suffolk, in fee-farm, and the lord chief juſtice Coke purchaſed it of him, and the fee-farm rent of the crown, and ſo it deſcended to Thomas Coke, the late earl of Leiceſter, who entailed it on his nephew, Wenman Roberts Coke, eſq. of Longford in Derbyſhire.

SACKVILLE'S MANOR. Jordan de Sackville, who married Margery, one of the daughters and coheirs of ſir Robert Aguillon, gave name to it; his ſon Andrew occurs lord in the 28th of Edward I.

In

In the 21ſt of Henry VI. John Spendlove, and Margaret his wife, and John, ſon and heir of Adam Snoring, conveyed it by fine to John Bertram, of Saxingham, by Holt, in Norfolk, who by his will, on July 15, 1461, deviſed it to John his ſecond ſon for life, with the advowſon, or until he ſhould be preferred to a greater benefice eccleſiaſtical, and then to go to the priory of Walſingham; and thus it was afterwards partly united to the manor of Snoring in this town, and part came to ſir Richard Williams, and ſo to ſir William Holles, and the late earl of Leiceſter, as aforeſaid.

There are three other manors in this town, called,

COCKFILLD'S,

BARNARDISTON'S, and

SNORING MANOR:

All, except the laſt, in poſſeſſion of the Holkham family, and purchaſed by lord chief juſtice Coke.

SNORING MANOR. Beſides the lordſhips above ſpecified, Emma de Beauſoe, daughter and coheir of Fulk de Beaufoe, and ſiſter of Agatha, had her right or part of a moiety in this town. She married Gilbert de Norfolk, who had a patent, in the 1ſt year of king John, to enjoy all her inheritance for life, and dying ſoon after without iſſue, ſhe obtained for 600 marks a licence not to be diſtrained to marry, and to enjoy all her own inheritance, and alſo to have her dower in that of her huſband.

Emma had a niece, Damietta, on whom ſhe ſettled great part of this lordſhip, and married firſt, Thomas Avenel, by whom ſhe had a ſon, Reginald, who died without iſſue.

Her

Her ſecond huſband was Peter de Fuldon, by whom ſhe had a ſon, Richard.

Damietta, in her widowhood, gave to the prior, &c. of Walſingham in Norfolk, thirty acres of land, with half a fold-courſe in this town; and her aunt Emma gave two acres of land, 28d. rent per ann. which Thomas Avenel was to pay her for lands ſhe granted him on his marriage.

This went by the name of Snoring manor in the reign of Edward IV. and on the diſſolution of Walſingham priory, was granted June 19, anno 6th of Edward VI. to Thomas (Thurleby) biſhop of Norwich, and his ſucceſſors, and ſo continues.

To thoſe who ſearch truly and deeply into ſacred antiquity, it will frequently appear how the church of Rome has for many centuries paſt, even in the Saxon times, impoſed on the credulity, the weakneſs and ignorance of mankind, by their *piæ fraudes*, inventions, and traditions, falſe and ſpurious to the laſt degree, as will appear in the following inſtance.

Felix, who is ſaid to be firſt Chriſtian biſhop of the Eaſt Angles, to have his ſeat at Dunwich in Suffolk, and to have died in or about the year 647, is made by the church of Rome to be the founder of this town, to give name to it, to have converted theſe parts, and to have erected the firſt Chriſtian church at Babingley, (a town adjoining to Flitcham) and that he was aſſiſted in this building, &c, by Thoke, a powerful man, lord of many townſhips in the neighbourhood, whom he had made a convert to the Chriſtian faith.

In

In anſwer to this, it is to be obſerved, that all towns in the times of the Britons, (many centuries before the time of biſhop Felix) took their names from their ſcite, as this did from the ſlices, that is, the fleet ices, ſprings, and ouzineſs of its ſoil, as we have already obſerved. Many of theſe ancient Britiſh and old Saxon names were changed by the Romiſh church, for the names of their fictitious ſaints; thus Slepe in Huntingdonſhire was changed and called St. Ives; thus Eynſbury was called St. Neots: thus old Verulam was changed to St, Alban's, and thus Bevderickſworth to St. Edmund's Bury. As for Thoke, ſaid to be a convert of St. Felix, he was lord of Weſt Walton, Harpley, Greſſinghall, Sculthorpe, Burnham Thorpe, and many other towns; was a noble Saxon lord, or thane, in king Edward's reign, and deprived of all on the conqueſt, as the book of Doomſday will teſtify.

The church of Flitcham conſiſts of a nave, a ſouth iſle, with a porch, and a ſquare tower in which hangs one bell, and is dedicated to the Virgin Mary; there has been a chancel and a north iſle, now in ruins; the ſouth iſle is covered with lead, and the nave and the porch are tiled.

At the weſt end of the nave lies a black marble grave-ſtone, with the arms of Bendiſh; argent, a chevron, between three rams heads, erazed, azure, attired, or. *Sub hoc lapide poſitum eſt corpus Franciſci Bendyſh, generoſi, in adverſis viri inſigni patientia, in amicos, non minore benignitate, qui expiravit 7 die Novemb. Ao. Dni.* 1647, *ætat.* 63; *Plurimis quondam oppreſſus, jam ærumnis, oppreſſionibus, malis omnibus dormit ſecurus; beatiſſimam expectans reſurrectionem.*

This church was anciently a rectory.

Afterwards,

Afterwards, the rectory was appropriated to the priory here, and a vicarage ſettled, and that was united and conſolidated to the rectory, for which the prior had a patent in the 17th of Richard II. Upon this the cure was probably ſerved by one of the canons here; and on the diſſolution it was granted, with the priory, &c. to Edward lord Clinton, January 9, in the 30th of Henry VIII. and ſoon after to Richard Williams, alias Cromwell, who in the next year alienated it to ſir William Holles, and ſo paſſed as the manor of Poynings, and is an impropriation belonging to the late earl of Leiceſter, and from him it came, after the deceaſe of his counteſs in 1775, to his nephew Wenman Roberts Coke, eſq.

It is now a donative of 20l. a year, paid by the tenant of the abbey farm to the officiating clergyman.——*Tempora mutantur.*

Flitcham Priory. This priory was ſubordinate to the priory of Walſingham. It was founded in the reign of Henry III. by ſir Robert Aguillon, probably anceſtor of the dukes d'Aquillon in France. It was ſurrendered to Henry VIII. the ſame day with that of Walſingham, Auguſt 4, 1539: in which year, or ſoon after, ſix hundred and forty-five monaſteries, ninety colleges, and two thouſand three hundred and ſeventy-four chapels were ſuppreſſed and ſurrendered to the king.

Some time after the ſuppreſſion this priory came to ſir Thomas Holles, who was taken up by the ſheriff of Norfolk in execution for debt, and his goods ſold. Afterwards it came to the duke of Norfolk, who was attainted and beheaded. It then reverted to the crown, and king James gave the abbey lands and eſtate, and ſcite of the priory, to Thomas Howard,

earl

earl of Suffolk, who was tried in the Star-chamber, turned out of his office as treaſurer, and ſuffered great affliction by the attainder of his daughter, the counteſs of Somerſet. The lord chief juſtice Coke bought the abbey and the abbey lands of this earl, and ſoon after he was diſgraced and forbid the court, and was unhappy during the remainder of his life. There ſeems to have been a fatality that hung over the heads of all thoſe who were too buſy in church lands, and over the heads of their ſucceſſors; and this has been remarked by many hiſtorians. Inſtances might be produced at this day in many families, which confirm the truth of the hiſtorian's obſervation.

This abbey, now a farm, containing about eleven hundred acres of land, many of the old walls ſtill remaining, which ſhew the priory to have been large and extenſive, deſcended to the late earl of Leiceſter, and his only ſon, lord Coke, dying without iſſue, lord Leiceſter entailed it, with the abbey of Caſtle-acre, and many other church revenues, upon Wenman Roberts Coke, eſq. who lived to enjoy the great acquiſitions of lord chief juſtice Coke from the church but one year, acceding to them in 1775, and dying in 1776.

This abbey of Flitcham was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and was called alſo St. Mary de Fontibus, becauſe it ſtood near ſome fountains and ſprings, which ſometimes flowed plentifully, and at other times did not appear. From theſe ſprings a ſtream ariſes, that gliding through the meadows, where the remains of this once venerable abbey ſtill exiſt in the unhallowed form of barns and ſtables, paſſes on to Hillington, and running weſtward, winds along the park of ſir Martin Folkes, bart. and falls into the

the channel near Riſing caſtle, and thence empties itſelf into the ſea.

The eſtate at Flitcham, in the Holkham family, amounts to three thouſand acres of land and upwards, the whole property of the town (excepting a ſmall part belonging to ſir Martin Folkes, bart.) having been from time to time purchaſed into that family.

In this pariſh was the remarkable hill or tumulus, where, in the Saxon age, the hundred court was held in the time of William Rufus, in order to decide a controverſy about lands at Holme, who iſſued out a commiſſion to H. his chamberlain, to call together three hundreds and an half at this place, called Flicceham Burch. It is upon an hill about a mile above the town of Flitcham, in the hundred of Freebridge citra Lenne, on the weſt ſide of the way, leading from that town to Shernbourne, being a ſquare piece of ground about an acre, ditched about with an old large ditch, about eight miles from Holme, where the lands lay which were then claimed by the abbot of Ramſey.

GAYTON. The town takes its names from Guy, a Britiſh word, and occurs frequently for the name of rivers, or water.

It is probable that ſoon after the ſurvey, William de Scohies granted it to the abbey of St. Stephen's, Weſtminſter, with the church of Gayton, which was appropriated to the priory of Well, and the patronage of the vicarage was in the priory.

Thomas Cobbe, ſon and heir of Jeffrey, had livery of the manor of Gayton, alias Egerton, with

the appurtenances, one meſſuage, and a fold-courſe, in Gayton Thorpe, Grimſton, and Eaſt Winch, in the 6th of queen Elizabeth, held of the ſaid queen, as of the caſtle of Dover; alſo the manors of Wykenhale, Brecham's, and Perſon's.

It appears by an inquiſition taken the 22d of April, in the 1ſt of Edward VI. at the caſtle of Norwich, that his father Jeffrey died May 18, 1544, poſſeſſed of the ſame manors, Gayton and Egerton, held of Dover caſtle, paying ten ſhillings rent per ann. Wykenhale, Brecham and Perſon's manors, held of the manor of Grimſton, paying twelve ſhillings per ann. and that Thomas his ſon and heir was of the age of five years, by Margaret his wife, daughter of Thomas Thoreſby, eſq. and that Ralph Gayton was Jeffrey's great grandfather; this Thomas is ſaid to die without iſſue; and William Cobbe (his brother) had livery of the aforeſaid manors about the 22d of the ſaid queen.

From the time of queen Elizabeth the proprietors are very uncertain, but it ſeems as if it remained for many years in the family of the Cobbes of Sandringham.

Richard Jackſon, eſq. of Weaſenham, one of his majeſty's council learned in the law, has a conſiderable property in Gayton at preſent.

CASTLE-ACRE PRIORY MANOR. William de Warren, ſon of Roger, confirmed all the donations of his father, grandfather, and of Walter his uncle, to the monks of Acra; and himſelf gave to them eleven ſhillings and four-pence rent in land in Gayton.

There

There was an agreement between the abbot and convent of St. Stephen, of Caen in Normandy, on one part, and the prior and convent of Caſtle-acre, on the other, for all the tithes belonging to the fee of the earl Warren in the village of Gayton, which belonged to Caſtle-acre priory; that the abbot of St. Stephen's, and his ſucceſſors, ſhould hold all the ſaid tithes, paying five marks of good ſterling per ann. and ſealed with the ſeals of both convents.

WENDLING ABBOT'S MANOR. The abbot of Wendling had a lordſhip. On the diſſolution of the religious houſes it came to the crown, and remained there ſome time; and was granted by queen Elizabeth, on the 10th of Auguſt, in her 13th year, to Thomas Jennyns and Edward Forth, gent. by the name of Gayton manor, alias Gayton Abbots, with concealed lands belonging to it in Tilney, Iſlington, Clenchwarton, Walpole, and Emneth; and king James I. on January 9, in his 8th year, granted it, for the ſum of 26l. 17s. 3d. with all the wood and underwood, valued at 3l. 16s. 9d. late the poſſeſſions of Wendling abbey, to ſir Edmund Mundeford, and he, on the 20th of July, in the 16th of the ſaid king, conveyed it to Sampſon Hopes, clerk.

After various ſucceſſions, it came to the family of the Longes in Suffolk, who poſſeſſed it in 1700; then it paſſed to Robert Jacomb, eſq. formerly member of parliament for Thetford.

There are two other manors,

COKESFORD PRIORY, and

WESTACRE PRIORY MANOR.

Of the regular deſcent of which very little is known with certainty.

This town lies eaſt of Lynn, in the road to Norwich, at the diſtance of ſix miles: to this town is a turnpike road from Lynn, which ends at the ſeven mile ſtone.

The church is a regular pile, has a nave, a north and ſouth iſle covered with lead, and a four-ſquare tower with three bells; the chancel is covered with tiles.

It is a vicarage, and the patronage is in the ſee of Norwich.

GAYTON THORPE. A moiety of the advowſon of this church was appropriated by ſir Thomas de Haſting, ſteward to king Henry II. to the abbey of Weſt Dereham.

At the diſſolution it was granted to Thomas Mildmay, eſq. February 26, *ao.* 4, Edward VI. and after came to ſir Edward Barkham, bart. and by the marriage of the heireſs, to the Yallops.

In 1761 it was conveyed to Philip Caſe, eſq. of Lynn, by Edward Spelman, eſq. of High Houſe, Weſtacre.

Philip Caſe, eſq. the preſent mayor of Lynn, for the third time, having ſerved that office twice before with great reputation, and particularly in the time of the Scotch rebellion againſt one of the beſt of kings, his late majeſty, George II. is the preſent lord of this manor.

It was formerly in the family of the Thorpes, which probably gave name to the town, the different lords of manors ſometimes giving their own name

name to a town, and ſometimes taking their name from it.

The church of Gayton Thorpe is dedicated to St, Mary, and is a ſingle antient pile, covered with lead, has a round tower, at the weſt end, (with two bells) and is covered with a cap.

On a grave-ſtone, with the arms of Wall, argent, on a croſs, ſable, five lioncels, rampant, or, impaling Barkham.—*In ſpe beatæ reſurrectionis, hic jacet Lucia relicta Franciſci Wall, armigeri, filia Edvardi Barkham, de Tottenham High Croſs, in comit. Middleſexiæ, militis et baronetti, quæ obt.* 30 *die Junij, Ao. Dni.* 1681.

Alſo on one—*Here lieth the body of Judith Swift, daughter of Dr. Beckham, who departed this life* 1*ſt of January,* 1718, *aged* 42 *years.*

In chariſſimorum parentum memoriam Edvardus Beckham, filius mærens, D. C.—H. S. E. Edw. Beckham, S. T. P. eccleſiarum de Gayton Thorp, et de South Pickenham, rector, qui obi. Apr. die 1° *ao. ætatis* 76, *Dni* M. D. CCXIV. *Juxta poſitæ ſunt exuviæ Janæ conjugis dicti Edwardi dilectiſſimæ, quæ obt. die poſt maritum quarto. Ao. ætatis* LIX.

In 1755 the Rev. George William Lemon, a man of learning, and late head maſter of the free ſchool at Norwich, was preſented to this church by the late Edward Spelman, eſq. whom he aſſiſted during many years in his ſtudies. The late Edward Spelman, eſq. was a gentleman well known in the literary world by his writings; he built High Houſe at Weſtacre, now the property of Anthony Hammond, eſq. where he reſided many years: he was an excel-

lent and indefatigable magiſtrate, and was thoroughly verſed in the laws of this realm, and the policy of it; on his deceaſe the ſeat and eſtate at High Houſe, came by purchaſe to the late Richard Hammond, eſq. and from him by his will, to the preſent Anthony Hammond, eſq. of High Houſe, Weſtacre.

GAYWOOD is a village adjoining and within a mile of the borough of Lynn Regis, and is a kind of ſuburb to that town.

This town and lordſhip belonged to the biſhops of the Eaſt Angles, in the time of the Saxons, and was given by ſome of their kings. In the reign of king William I. William (Beaufoe) biſhop of Thetford, held it in right of that ſee; and Almar biſhop of Elmham, held it in king Edward the Confeſſor's time, by the ſame right: this Almar was brother to Stigend, and ſucceeded him in this ſee, on his tranſlation to Wincheſter, in 1047.

In the 24th year of Henry II. the biſhop of Norwich was found to hold this lordſhip, with Lynn, *in capite;* and in the 34th of that king, he would not ſuffer the king's bailiff or coroner to enter into it, having a coroner of his own; and in the following year, had a charter of free warren here, &c.

William de Raleigh, biſhop, made a park here, and a warren.

In the 3d of Edward I, the biſhop of Norwich was found to have the return of all writs, a gallows, aſſiſe of bread and beer, and other royalties; and in the 9th year of that king, he was preſented, on account of his water-mill here having drowned the high way, to the damage of the people paſſing by.

Henry

Henry Spencer, biſhop of Norwich, had licence in the 11th of king Richard II. to embattle his palaces of Gaywood and North Elmham.

It continued in the ſee of Norwich till it was granted by an act of parliament, February 4, in the 27th year of Henry VIII. to the crown, with other of the biſhop's manors and barony, by way of exchange for the abbey manors and lands belonging to St. Bennet of Holme.

William Rugg, the laſt abbot there, being nominated biſhop of Norwich, this manor being thus in the crown, it was conveyed away on January 1, in the 36th of king Henry VIII. under the great ſeal of England, having the king's mark at the top, and underneath ſigned by the duke of Norfolk, lord Ruſſell, lord Rich, Richard Southwell and Walter, officers of the court of Augmentation, by way of exchange for other lands, to Thomas duke of Norfolk, for life, without impeachment of waſte; remainder to Henry earl of Surry, his ſon and heir, and the lady Frances his wife, and their heirs, to be held by the twentieth part of a fee, and the rent of 4l. 18s. per ann. payable at St. Michael, into the court of Augmentation.

Henry earl of Surry, was afterwards attainted in his father's life time, but on his death in the reign of queen Mary, an act paſſed to confirm it to ſir Thomas Howard, knt. ſon of Henry, late earl of Surry, who being reſtored alſo to the dukedom, was beheaded in the 15th year of queen Elizabeth; and it being again in the crown, that queen in her 20th year, by letters patent, dated at Hampton Court, January 15, granted it, with the advowſon and demeans, the manors of Eaſt and Weſt Rudham, and

the ſcite of the priory of Coxford in Norfolk, (parts alſo of the late duke's poſſeſſions) to Edward earl of Oxford, who, in her 22d year, had licence to convey this manor of Gaywood, with the advowſon, to John Pepys, gent. and he ſoon after ſold it to Thomas Thoreſby, of Haveleſs-hall in Mintling, eſq. in which family it continued till ſold by Francis Thoreſby, eſq. about 1697, to ſir Cyril Wyche, knt. of Hockwold-hall in Norfolk.

Sir Cyril Wyche was ſecretary of ſtate of Ireland in the reign of king William III.

The late ſir Cyril Wyche was reſident from the court of England to the Hans Towns in Germany and knight of the order of Holſtein.

Sir Cyril had a grant in the 10th of William III. for two fairs in the year in this town, on the 11th and 12th of June, and on the 6th and 7th of October, for cattle, and all merchandiſe.

The church is dedicated to St. Faith, the Virgin and Martyr; it conſiſts of a ſquare ſteeple of brick, in which hang three bells; a nave, with north and ſouth croſs iſles, covered with thatch.

It was antiently valued with the vicarage belonging to it, at ſix marks, and was not viſited by the archdeacon, being a peculiar of the biſhop of Norwich, and in his patronage and manor: the preſent value in the king's books is 5l. 13s. 4d. and the patronage has always gone with the lordſhip.

The Rev. Samuel Beatniffe is the preſent rector: he ſucceeded the Rev. Mr. Wright of Eaſt Harling, who ſucceeded the Rev. Dr. Stedman, rector of Denver,

Denver, archdeacon of Norfolk, and prebendary of Canterbury.

On a grave-ſtone with a braſs plate, in the chancel,—*Here lyeth Tho. Hares, a man always peaceable, and religious, ever deſirous of doing good, and to his power did it, he died a good old man, full of days and of faith, his ſoul is returned to God that gave it, and his body thus reſteth in hope.*

Qui fuit eternæ Chriſtus mihi cauſa ſalutis,
Exuvijs rurſus veſtiat oſſa meis.
Ejuſdem reditu mihi vita, ſaluſq; paratur,
Intacto tumulo molliter oſſa cubent.

Vixit annos 84, *obijt Apr.* 13, 1617. *Tho. Hares, illius filius, et hujus eccleſiæ rector, deflevit.*

One alſo thus inſcribed.—*Hic jacet Tho. Thurlin, S. T. P. S. Joh. coll. Cantabrigiæ præſes, hujus eccleſiæ* 50 *annos rector, vir pietate, doctrina, et animi candore inclytus, beneficij memor, injuriæ oblivioſus, octogenarius obt. Aug.* 11, 1714.

GRIMSTON. Breccles Manor: The capital manor in this town was held by Stigand, archbiſhop of Canterbury, (as a temporal fee) in the reign of the Confeſſor; but the Conqueror deprived him of it, and gave it to his half brother Odo, biſhop of Bayeux in Normandy, and created by him earl of Kent. This Odo held it at the ſurvey, but being in arms againſt king William II. and taking part with Robert duke of Normandy, the Conqueror's eldeſt ſon, in his claim to the crown of England, againſt his brother king William II. he was deprived of this, and all his other eſtates in England; and this lordſhip was granted by that king to William de Albini, anceſtor to the earls of Suſſex and Arundel.

This

This lordſhip was held ſoon after the conqueſt by a family who took their name on being enfeoffed herein: Godfrey de Grimſton (probably lord) was a witneſs to a deed, *ſans* date, of Richard Aguillon, and Ela his wife, to the monks of Caſtle-acre.

In the 34th of Henry III. a fine was levied between Peter de Kailly and Mary his wife, Ralph, ſon of Simon le Counte, and Joan his wife, of the moiety of two hundred and thirty-two acres of land in this town, Rudham, Tittleſhall, &c. claimed by Peter and Mary, of the inheritance of Roger de Grimſton, father of the ſaid Mary and Joan, by Alice his wife, deceaſed, whoſe heirs they were, which was then divided between them.

In the 27th of Henry III. Thomas de Grimſton held two fees of the honor of Riſing, which were aſſigned to Iſabel, widow of Hugh earl of Arundel, for her life; this Thomas was married, but died without iſſue; and on the death of Agnes his widow, Alice or Elizabeth, daughter of Godfrey de Grimſton, his brother, was his heir: ſhe married John de Breccles, who in her right was lord, in the 16th of Edward I, and from him the manor took its name.

In the 17th of Edward I. it was adjudged that Robert de Tateſhale (who married one of the ſiſters and heirs to Hugh, earl of Albany) ſhould have the men and reſidents of this town, come to his hundred court of Freebridge; but John de Breccles, and Alice his wife, pleaded that they ought to come to his court lete. He was ſucceeded by Benedict de Breccles his ſon and heir.

Though

Though this title abovementioned to this lordſhip is warranted by authentic records, yet Benedict de Breccles derived his right and pedigree very different from this, as appears from an old parchment, wrote in his own time in Latin, and *ſans* date, called a Memorandum of the names of the anceſtors of John Benedict de Breccles, viz.

Thomas ſon of Godfrey, ſon of Aldric a French man, to whom William earl of Suſſex gave Grimſton, Brunham, (Burnham) Breccles, &c. after whoſe death, (Thomas's) Peter ſucceeded, his ſon and heir, and a knight; after ſir Peter, Thomas his ſon and heir, a knight; then ſir Peter, his ſon and heir, after him; ſir Thomas his ſon and heir; Thomas his ſon and heir ſucceeded, who died without iſſue; and Chriſtian was his ſiſter and heir, who dying without iſſue, Peter her uncle was her heir; which Peter was brother to ſir Thomas, father of Thomas and Chriſtian; which Peter dying without iſſue, Bartholomew his brother was his heir; he had Alice, his daughter and heir; and from the ſaid Alice, the right deſcends to Benedict her ſon and heir, now living.

It is to be obſerved, that great confuſion often ariſes in pedigrees, &c. from one and the ſame family's, and often one and the ſame perſon's taking different names from the different towns that they (or he) were lords of. An inſtance of this we have in this family, who were called ſometimes De Grimſton, and ſometimes de Breccles, of both which towns they were lords; and this ſir Benedict dying lord of both theſe towns, in the reign of king Edw. II. was ſucceeded therein by John de Breccles, his ſon and heir, who in the 9th of that king appears

to

to be lord; and in the 14th of Edward III. John de Breccles was a witneſs to a deed.

In the time of ſir Benedict abovementioned, we have this account of his lordſhip from an old parchment roll:—Benedict de Breccles holds *in capite* of the earl of Arundel, the manor of Grimſton, with the advowſon of the church, and the manor of Brunham, with the advowſon of a moiety of the church of St. Mary, of Burnham Weſtgate, and the manor of Little Breccles, by the ſervice of two knights fees, by the deed of William earl of Arundel; and he hath the manor of Grimſton, by the church, with ſeveral pieces of land thereto belonging, together with a moor, called Derby Moor, a heath and two water-mills; and there belong to the ſaid manor waif and ſtrays, found within the precincts of Grimſton; a bull, and a lete of all his tenants, to be held in the ſaid manor, by the king's bailiff, without any profit to be carried off; and the bailiff of the ſaid Benedict ſhall bring all amerciaments of the ſaid lete, by the oath of lawful men, &c. and if the bailiff ſhall be unwilling to keep the ſaid lete, as it happened in the time of John Breccles, the ſaid lord of the manor to have a brief of the chancellor, to the ſaid bailiffs, to hold the ſaid lete, as they ought; and there belongs to the ſaid manor a profit called Lovebene, to wit, that all reſidents in Grimſton, having horſes with a cart, ſhall work for the lord, for the redeeming of the common of Grimſton, one day's journey of barley ſeed time, and he ſhall have for his breakfaſt one penny halfpenny; and all keeping cows on the common, ſhall do a day's work in harveſt, and at three o'clock they ſhall have fleſh to eat, and ale to drink, and three loaves every evening; and if they refuſe, then it ſhall be lawful to diſtrain on the ſaid common, &c.

&c. But ſir Robert de Montalto, the prior of Weſt-acre, the lady De Thony, the prioreſs of Black-borough, the rector of Grimſton, Nicholas Coſtyn, Nicholas Norman, Agneys Waceneys, Richard Beneyt, the tenants of the meſſuage of John Spylm, Hubert de Bumſtead, Robert de Berton, Walter Oldman, John Skot, ſir Ralph le Botiler, Roger Skot, ſhall not do the day's work in barley ſeed time, nor the day's, in harveſt, becauſe their tenants work for them; and likewiſe that no man ſell the common of Grimſton to ſtrangers, without leave of the ſaid Benedict, and his heirs; and if any ſtranger in Congham, or in any village, is willing to have common in Grimſton, he ſhall do the work as the others do.

In 1402 Benedict de Breccles, ſon of John de Breccles, was lord; ſoon after, it ſeems to have been out of this family, in the 25th of Henry VI.

John Paſton, ſon and heir of William Paſton, releaſed to Thomas Daniel, eſq. all his right in the manor of Grimſton, (which we ſuppoſe to be this of Breccles) with lands, &c. in Roydon, Well-hall; and in the 28th of the ſaid king a fine was levied between Thomas Daniel, eſq. and Henry Wode-houſe, eſq. of the manor of Grimſton, with that of Well-hall, in Gayton, &c. twenty meſſuages, five hundred acres of land, one hundred of meadow, five hundred of paſture, twenty of wood, two hundred of moor, and 10l. per ann. rent conveyed to Daniel.

In the 10th of Edw. IV. Auguſt 4. John Wode-houſe, eſq. ſenior, and Arnold Snoring, confirmed to Edward Wodehouſe and James Tyrell, knights, William Tindale, and Richard Southwell, eſq. all

their

their manors of Grimſton and Roydon, with a fulling-mill in Riſing, and all other their lands, tenements, rents, and ſervices in the ſaid towns, with all other profits which they had of the grant of the aforeſaid Edward Wodehouſe: and ſir Thomas Brews, knt. William Tindale, and Richard Holditch, eſq. releaſe to John De la Pole, duke of Suffolk, and Edward Wodehouſe, knt. in the 15th of the ſaid reign, the manor of Grimſton, called Breccles, with the advowſon of the church of Grimſton, by deed dated April 10.

After this it was poſſeſſed by the lord Rochford, brother to Anna Bolein, queen of England, who being attainted in the year 1536, it came to the crown, and king Edward VI. granted it to ſir William Brooke, knt. ſon and heir to the lord Cobham, on the 26th of June, in his 7th year. Sir William conveyed it for 250l. in the 1ſt of queen Mary, to William Yelverton, eſq. in the 3d of Elizabeth he was lord, and it appears to be part of the jointure of Jane his wife; which William died ſeiſed of it Auguſt 28, in the 28th of Elizabeth.

Edward Yelverton, gent. his ſecond ſon, to whom he bequeathed it, kept his court for the manor on Monday May 22, in the 29th of that queen; and in the 31ſt year of the ſaid reign, Robert Hill, bailiff, accounted for 7l. 3s. *ob.* rent of aſſiſe of the free tenants of the manors of Breccles, Blackborough, and Weſtacre in this town.

In 1521 Edward Yelverton and Nazareth his wife, let this manor to farm. He was a doctor of phyſic and a popiſh recuſant, and lived at this time at Rougham, and ſome times at Appleton, &c. and on his obtaining a pardon for his forfeiture on account

of

of his recuſancy, granted twenty marks per ann. out of his manor of Breccles, for ſo long a time as he ſhould not conform to the laws; and on the 12th of April, 1615, he ſold to William Bladwell, eſq. this manor, with the lete, and thoſe of Morleys, Downham-hall, Coſteyns, Weſtacre, Blackborough, &c. in this town, containing twenty-ſix meſſuages, ten tofts, 26 gardens, eight hundred acres of land, one hundred of meadow, three hundred of paſture, twenty of wood, three thouſand of heath and furze, with 5l. rent per ann. and liberty of two folds. This Bladwell was of the family of Bladwell of Thurlow Magna in Suffolk, and bore per pale argent and gules, a lion rampant, ſable.

Bladwell was lord, and ſold it to —— Brown, whoſe widow held it in 1693.

After this William Bagge, eſq. was lord, and ſold it to ſir Robert Walpole, earl of Orford, and his grandſon now poſſeſſes it.

COXFORD PRIORY MANOR. In the reign of Edw. II. the prior of Coxford had lands in Grimſton.

On the diſſolution of religious houſes it was granted to ſir Thomas Wodehouſe, of Waxham in Norfolk; afterwards it came to William Bladwell, of Thurlow Magna in Suffolk, and it appears to be held in that family to the 17th of James I.

CORDEL'S and DUNHAM'S MANORS. Thomas, ſon of Walter Cordel, purchaſed lands, by fine, in the 5th year of king John; and John Hode, or Ode, of Lynn, and Robert Cordel, or Cordwell, held in this town and Congham, the tenth part of a fee of John de Vaux, in the reign of Henry III.

In

In the 16th of Edward I. this tenth part was aſſigned to Petronilla, wife to William de Narford, as eldeſt daughter of John de Vaux, being in the tenure of Jeffrey Cordel; and in the ſaid year John Dunham was found to hold part of a fee of William de Roos and Maud his wife, the other daughter of John de Vaux.

In the 7th of Edward II. a fine was levied between Simon, ſon of Robert Cordel of Grimſton, and Robert the father, of lands ſettled on Simon: and in the 20th of Edward III. John Ode, and the heirs of Robert Cordel, and their tenants, held here and in Congham, as appears by an inquiſition, half a fee of the heirs of John de Vaux.

From the above proprietors the manors took their names.

It afterwards came to the Wodehouſes, and Roger Wodehouſe, eſq. and Elizabeth his wife, kept their firſt court of Downham-hall, on the feaſt of St. Priſca the Virgin, January 18, in the 2d of Henry VIII. and it came from Wodehouſe, in the 17th of Elizabeth, to John Holditch, eſq. of Ranworth.

On December 20, in the 19th of Elizabeth, William Yelverton, eſq. purchaſed the manor of Downham of John Holditch, eſq. of Ranworth; and Edward Yelverton, his ſecond ſon, executor to his father, kept his court on Monday May 22, in the 29th of Elizabeth.

Costeyn's Manor. Nicholas Coſteyn occurs lord in the 9th of Edward II. and William Coſteyn, in the firſt year of Richard II. held it of the honor of

of Arundel; and in the 19th of Henry VIII. Thomas duke of Norfolk, Thomas marquis of Dorſet, —— Fitz Walter, ſir Roger Townſhend, John Creſſener, and John Whitby, feoffees of this lordſhip, for the uſe of Roger Wodehouſe, eſq. ſon and heir of ſir Thomas, held a court on Monday next after the Paſſion of our Lord. Roger Wodehouſe, eſq. conveyed it by fine to John Holditch, eſq. in the 17th of Elizabeth. After this it came to William Yelverton, eſq. in the 19th of Elizabeth, and ſo to his ſon Edward, and to William Bladwell.

Bozun's, Grimston's, alias Congham's, alias Gayton, alias Wyveling's, alias Reed-Hall. Robert Bozoun, of Thornage in Norfolk, by an indenture made March 24, in the 33d of Elizabeth, for 70l. covenants to levy a fine of the manor of Grimſton, alias Congham, alias Gayton, alias Wyvelingham, alias Reed-hall, with 4l. 14s. 7d. rent, late Roger Bozoun's, ſon of the ſaid Robert, to Anthony Bedingfeld, gent. to the uſe of Anthony, and Roger Bozoun, for their lives; and then to the uſe of Edward Yelverton and Margaret his wife, and his heirs. The rents of the free tenants of Bozoun's manor, about this time, were 2l. 7s. 4d. and the copy-holders 16d. per ann, From Yelverton it was conveyed to William Bladwell, eſq. as in Breccles manor.

Morley's Manor, &c. In the 17th of Edward III. ſir Robert Morley was lord, and Joan his wife joined in ſettling of it in tail, and he is ſaid, in the 20th of that king, to hold it by the fourth part of a fee of the heirs of Huntingfeld, which John de St. Cleer and his tenants formerly held. In the 34th of the ſaid reign, ſir Robert Morley was found to die beyond ſea, ſeiſed of this lordſhip, and ſir William

liam Morley was his ſon, aged 30, by Hawiſia his firſt wife, daughter and heir of ſir William Mareſhall, knt. and Henry Morley, aged 15, and Robert, were his ſons by his ſecond wife.

After this it was in the Wodehouſes. Roger Wodehouſe, of Kimberley, eſq. ſettled it on the 2d of May, in the 36th of Henry VIII. on his ſon Thomas and Margaret his wife, daughter of ſir John Shelton; and Roger Wodehouſe, eſq. ſon of Thomas and Margaret, held his firſt court on the 17th of March, in the 15th of Elizabeth: in the 17th year of that queen he conveyed it, with the manors of Downham-Hall and Coſteyn's, to John Holditch, eſq. of Ranworth, who, with Elizabeth his wife, ſold the ſaid manors for 540l. on December 20, in the 19th of Elizabeth, to William Yelverton, eſq. and from him they came to his ſon, Edward Yelverton; and from him to William Bladwell, eſq. as in Breccles manor, &c.

Castle-acre Priory Manor. The prior of Caſtle-acre held lands here.

In the 33d of Elizabeth it was ſettled by Robert Bozoun, of Thornage, eſq. together with the manors of Bozoun, Wyvelingham, Reed-hall, &c. as in Bozoun's manor, from which family it came to Edward Yelverton, and ſo to William Bladwell, eſq.

Blackborough Priory Manor. The prioreſs of Blackborough has a ſmall lordſhip here.

William Bladwell purchaſed it of the Yelvertons, after many proprietors at preſent unknown in the different reigns from the diſſolution, on April 12, 1615, in the reign of James I.

WESTACRE PRIORY MANOR. In the 16th year of Henry III. a fine was levied between Bartholomew, ſon of Simon, and Robert prior of Weſtacre, when Bartholomew conveyed two meſſuages and forty-four acres of land, in Grimſton, to the prior.

After its diſſolution it was granted, on the 27th of June, in the 2d and 3d of Philip and Mary, to ſir Henry Bedingfield. Sir Henry ſold it to Robert Coke of Mileham, and Coke conveyed it, in the reign of Elizabeth, to William Yelverton, of Rougham, eſq. and his ſon Edward ſold it to William Bladwell, April 12, 1615.

In the 9th of Richard I. a fine was levied between Peter, ſon of Richard, and Alan, ſon of Reiner, or Reinham, of the moiety of a capital meſſuage, and a carucate of land, &c. here, and in the fields of Congham, not of the beſt nor worſt land, conveyed to Peter, to be held by the ſervice of a pair of gilt ſpurs, of the value of three-pence.

In the 16th of Edward I. Thomas de Weyland purchaſed by fine, of Nicholas, ſon of William, ſon of Reiner, meſſuages and lands in Grimſton, Congham, and Gayton: this was the judge, ſir Thomas de Weyland, who was baniſhed, and his eſtate confiſcated, as we have obſerved in Maſſingham, and was found to hold one hundred ſhillings rent per ann. in this town, Congham and Gayton, of Nicholas, ſon of Reiner, by the ſervice of two ſhillings per ann.

Berner, captain of the croſs-bow-men, had the grant of a lordſhip, of which Ulueruna, a free woman, was deprived.

This lordſhip came from Berner to the Picots, and on the death of Euſtace Picot, was inherited by his daughter Lauretta, who married Hugh de Burdelys, who died about the 30th of Henry II. The family of de Burdelys were alſo lords of Scoulton, Congham and Hillington, in Norfolk; of Madingley and Comberton, in Cambridgeſhire; and bore ermin, on a chief, gules, a lion paſſant, or, as appears from a roll of king Edward I. knights in Cambridgeſhire.

John, the laſt heir male of this family, died a minor, in 1396.

The church of Grimſton is dedicated to St. Botolph, and is a rectory. Near two hundred acres of glebe are ſaid to belong to this rectory, with a manor, lete, and a ſheep walk.

The church is a regular pile, with a nave, two iſles, and a chancel covered with lead; a large four-ſquare tower, and five bells.

The patronage of this church is in the maſter and fellows of Queen's college. The Rev. Mr. Cowper, preſident of that college, was the late rector: he ſucceeded the Rev. Morley Unwin, who was likewiſe preſident of Queen's, and was killed by a fall from his horſe as he was riding out to take the air, in the ſtreet of Godmanchester near Huntingdon, where he was lecturer, and kept a ſchool with much reputation.

In 1703 here was a ſchool, endowed with a houſe and 20l. per ann. by the gift of William Brage, eſq. of Hatfield Peverell in Eſſex, lord of Grimſton.

This

This town is wrote in Doomſday-book, Grimeſtuna, Gruneſtuna, and Erneſtuna, and takes its name from a rivulet that ariſes by the church.

The rivulet aforeſaid ariſes on the north ſide of the church-yard, from which it is parted by a little road, in a bottom, where it makes a little pool, and runs hence to Lynn.

Grimſton is to the eaſt of Lynn about ſeven miles.

HARPLEY, is ſituated on a pleaſing eminence, within a mile of Houghton-hall, the magnificent ſeat of the earl of Orford. The church affords a beautiful proſpect, or landſcape at a diſtance, being built on a hanging hill, and ſeen at ſome diſtance.

This town was one of thoſe granted by the Conqueror to William de Warren.

CALTHORPE'S MANOR. In the 17th of Edward II. ſir Walter de Calthorpe was lord, and held here, in Fulmondeſton, Hackford and Burnham, five fees and an half of the earl of Pembroke, of the caſtle of Acre; but in the 3d of Edward III. ſir William de Calthorpe, knt. of Burnham Thorpe, ſettled it on himſelf for life, and Walter his ſon, and Alice his wife, in tail; remainder on his younger ſons, John, Oliver, William, &c.

In 1360 ſir Oliver de Calthorpe was lord; and in the 14th of Henry VII. Clement Anger had it in farm, of ſir Philip Calthorpe: in this family it continued, till Elizabeth, ſiſter and heir of Philip Calthorpe, eſq. and only daughter of ſir Philip, brought it by marriage to ſir Henry Parker, who had livery

of it in the 3d of Edward VI. Sir Calthorpe Parker died poſſeſſed of it in the 13th of James I. and ſir Philip his ſon ſucceeded him.

From the Calthorpes, after many deſcents, it came to the earl of Orford.

Gourney's Manor. This manor in the reign of Henry II. came into the family of the Gourneys.

Sir John de Gourney was lord in the reign of Henry II.

John Gourney, eſq. of Harpley, releaſed in the 2d of Henry IV. to Hugh Bavent, all his right in a meſſuage, and forty-four acres of land in this townſhip, formerly Alice Bevant's, wife of Richard Bevant, and died in the 9th of the ſaid king.

The Gourneys remained in poſſeſſion till the reign of Henry VII.

The Curſons enjoyed it in the reign of queen Elizabeth; from the Curſons it came to the Yelvertons, and ſir William Yelverton, bart. ſold it about 1642, to John Walpole, eſq. of Bromeſthorpe, who married Abigail, daughter and heir of Froxmer Corbet, of Bromeſthorpe.

This John was brother of Robert Walpole, eſq. of Houghton in Norfolk, and father of ſir Edward Walpole, knight of the bath, who inherited it as heir to his uncle John; and in this family it remains, the earl of Orford being the preſent lord.

Uphall Manor. In the 3d of Edward I. Laurence de Manors was lord, and had a lete belonging

to

to him, for which he paid eightteen-pence to the lord of the hundred: he was ſucceeded by his ſon William de Manors, who with Margaret his wife, was living in the 35th of that king.

After this, by a deed dated November 26, in the 18th of Edward II. at Harpley, Walter ſon of Robert de Meleford, grants to his lord, ſir John de Gourney, rector of the church of Harpley, his meſſuage called Uphall, with all the homages, and ſervices of his free tenants, view of frank-pledge, free bull and boar, all perquiſites of court, and all other liberties late Ralph's, ſon of Walter de Manors, with wards, reliefs, eſcheats, &c. with all the lands that Mariona, late wife of the ſaid Walter, holds for life, being of his right and inheritance; and all the tenements which ſir Henry de Walpole, knt. Godfrey ſon of Acelina de Harplee, and Thomas Elwyn, of Houghton, hold of the ſaid Mariona, during her life, and which, after her deceaſe, ought to deſcend to the ſaid Walter and his heirs, the ſaid John de Gourney paying one clove per ann.—Witneſſes, ſir Henry de Walpole, Thomas de Feltham, Edmund Laurence, Oliver de Maſſingham, Ralph de Walſingham, William de Harplee.

And the ſaid manor, tenements, &c. were by deed of the ſaid John de Gourney, dated on Monday the feaſt of St. Thomas the Apoſtle, in the 6th year of king Edward III. granted to his nephew, John de Gourney, and Jane his wife, and their heirs.

Here is an annual fair kept on the 25th of July, granted in the 35th of Edward I. to John de Gourney, lord, patron and rector of the town; and it belongs to the rector for the time being.

The church is dedicated to St, Laurence the Martyr, and is a rectory.

The church has a nave, a north and ſouth iſle, and a chancel; and was built by ſir Robert Knowls, a famous general in the reigns of Edward III. and Richard II. in the wars in France; who was knight of the garter, and bore gules, on a chevron, argent, three roſes of the firſt, which arms are painted on ſcreens on the left hand as you enter the chancel; and on the right hand argent, a feſs dauncy, between three leopards faces, ſable, the arms of ſir Robert's wife, probably a Beverley.

In the windows of the church were the arms of Gourney, argent, a croſs, ingrailed, gules;—of Baſſingbourne, gyrony of eight, or, and azure;——of Noiers, vairy, argent and gules;——of Calthorpe, checque, or, and azure, a feſs, ermine.

On the pavement of the chancel lies an old marble grave-ſtone, whereon was the portraiture or effigies of a prieſt, with two ſhields and a rim of braſs, now torn off: by the inciſion of the ſtone made to let the letters in on the rim, it appears to be—*Hic jacet corpus Johis de Gournay, quondā rectoris et patroni hujus eccleſie. cuj; ā i'e. p'pitietur Deus, Amen.*—He died rector in the 6th of Edward III.

Hic jacet Henricus Colman, S. T. P. Rector de Harpley, et Foulſham in agro Norfolc. filius Ricardi Colman, armigeri, et Annæ uxoris ſuæ, filiæ Edwardi Hyde de Hatch in com. Wylt. S. T. P. vir admodum reverendus, benevolentia, literis, et pietate egregie notus, qui obt. nono die menſis Oct. ao. 1715.

In

In the uppermoſt window but one of the north iſle, was the hiſtory of St. Laurence, painted on the glaſs, as appears from ſome fragments, and the inſignia of that ſaint, a grid-iron, or.

The earl of Orford is the chief proprietor of this pariſh: the college of Chriſt College hold ſome lands in this as well as many other pariſhes in this county, which are upon leaſe to the preſent earl of Orford.

Henry Bland, D. D. dean of Durham, held this living, with that of Great Bircham, from the year 1715 to the year 1744, when he reſigned it, and the Rev. Horace Hamond, D. D. was inſtituted on the preſentation of the late earl of Orford, and is the preſent rector.

HILLINGTON. This town is ſituated near the river, but on the oppoſite ſide, that riſes in the ſprings of Flitcham abbey, and derives its name from that circumſtance of lying near the water. In Doomſday-book it is called Helingetuna.

Sir Martin Folkes, bart. has a ſeat here, which he has lately much improved, and it is now equal to moſt of the family ſeats in this county. The gardens are planted with the choiceſt trees, and the hot walls and pinery being finiſhed in much taſte and propriety, produce annually great quantities of fruit and grapes in the higheſt perfection.

AUBYN'S, or ALBON'S MANOR. In the 25th of Edward I. Robert, ſon of Albon, of Stamford, conveyed by fine to John, (ſon of Albon of Stamford) of Hillington, and Sibill his wife, lands and meſſuages here.

In

In the 28th of that king, John Albon or Aubyn, and Sibill his wife, had conveyed to them by a fine, from Sarah, daughter of Richard de Merley, lands, &c. in Hillington, with the moiety of the advowſon of the church.

From this John Albon the manor ſeems to take its name; and in the 2d of Edward III. a fine was levied between John Aubyn of Hillington and Margaret his wife, and Vincent, ſon of Philip of Wood-Norton, of meſſuages and lands here, and in Congham, with the advowſon of a moiety of this church, ſettled on John, &c. in tail.

In 1412, this manor was in the family of Irmingland, and after this it came to the lord Scales; and in the 13th of Edward IV. it deſcended to John de Vere, earl of Oxford, in right of Elizabeth his mother, daughter and heir of John Howard, eſq. grandſon and heir to ſir Robert Howard and Margaret his wife, daughter and heir of Robert lord Scales; which John dying without iſſue, was ſucceeded by his nephew, John Vere earl of Oxford, who left on his death, in 1526, his three ſiſters, Urſula, married to ſir Edward Knightly; Dorothy, to John Nevill lord Latimer; and Elizabeth, to ſir Anthony Wingfield, his co-heireſſes.

Urſula having no iſſue, this lordſhip came to the lords Latimers, and the Wingfields family; and ſoon after the lord Latimer conveyed his moiety to the Wingfields; and ſir Robert Wingfield had livery of it about the 1ſt of queen Elizabeth; and in the 24th of the ſaid queen conveyed it to William Walpole, eſq. who had in the ſaid year a pardon for purchaſing it without licence; and was ſold by the execu-

tors

tors of the ſaid William, to Richard Hovell, eſq. who preſented to the church as lord in 1610.

In this family it continued many years, and on the death of ſir William Hovell, knt. it came to his three daughters and co-heirs, and their deſcendants.

Martin Folkes, eſq. by the marriage of the ſecond daughter and co-heir, had an intereſt in it, as his ſon Martin had, on whoſe death it came to his brother, William Folkes, eſq. and his ſon ſir Martin Folkes, bart. is the preſent lord.

UPHALL and NETHERHALL MANORS. This manor of Uphall was formerly granted to the conventual church of Campſey priory in Suffolk.

On the diſſolution it was granted to John Eyre, eſq. by king Henry VIII. on February 20, in his 36th year, from whom it came to the family of Stede. William Stede, and William Playfoot held it in the 4th of Elizabeth.

William, ſon and heir of William, was lord of Uphall and Hillington (and it extended into Flitcham, Congham, Grimſton and Roydon) in the 21ſt of Elizabeth, Playfoot conveying his right to William Stede in the 6th of the ſaid queen; and William Stede his ſon, by his will dated April 23, 1613, bequeathed it to Thomas his ſon. It was after united to the other lordſhip.

The manor of Netherhall was poſſeſſed by William Barker, gent. of Edgefield, in queen Elizabeth's reign, and purchaſed of him by Richard Hovell, eſq. and ſo it came to ſir Martin Folkes, bart. the preſent lord.

Bury's Hall was purchaſed of William Walpole, eſq. by Richard Hovell, eſq. and ſo became united to the other lordſhips held by ſir Martin Folkes, bart. the preſent lord.

West Dereham Manor was alſo purchaſed about 1580, of William Walpole, eſq. by Richard Walpole, eſq.

Lewis or Castle-acre Priory. William earl Warren and Surry, gave in the reign of Henry II. two parts of the tithe of his fee to Caſtle-acre priory.

There is alſo another manor in this pariſh, of which ſir James Johnſtone, bart, is the preſent lord, in right of his lady, the widow of the Rev. Mr. Meyrie.

Sir James has built a ſeat on the top of a hill in this pariſh, which commands a moſt extenſive proſpect over Lynn channel and to the Britiſh ocean, weſt and north, and over all the country to the ſouth as far as Downham, ten miles to the ſouthward of Lynn.

The family of Hovell is of great antiquity. Richard Hovell held of Baldwin, abbot of Bury, in the time of the Conqueror, a lordſhip at Wiverſtone in Suffolk; and five free men held lands under the ſaid Richard.

Sir John Hovell, of Wratting Parva in Suffolk, was living in 1370.

William Hovell, of Riſhangles in Suffolk, died in 1433, and by Beatrix his wife, daughter of ſir John

John Thorpe, of Aſhwell Thorpe, was father of Richard Hovell, who married Frances, daughter of Arthur Hopton, eſq. of Weſtwood in Suffolk, widow of ſir Thomas Nevill, and left William his ſon and heir, of Aſhfield in Suffolk, who died July 7, 1534. By Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Rowland Harſike, of Lopham, eſq. he was father of William Hovell, of Aſhfield, who married Ann, daughter of Thomas Gawdy, of Harleſton, eſq. and Ann Baſingborne his wife, by whom he had a ſon, William, of Stratfield-hall in Hadleigh, Suffolk, who took to wife Ann, daughter of Richard Turner, of Norton.

The church is a ſingle pile; that and the chancel are covered with tile, and has a ſquare tower, with one bell.

On the north wall of the chancel is a mural monument, with the effigies of a gentleman in his gown, and his wife, on their knees, thus inſcribed:

The monument of Richard Hovell, of Hillington in the countie of Norfolk, Eſq; being of the age of 77 years and upwards, finiſhed his courſe the 30th of November, 1611, in peace with God, in charity with all men, and now reſteſt here with expectation of the Reſurrection, in aſſurance of eternal glorification. Margery Hovell, wife of the aforeſaid Richard Hovell, Eſq; deceaſed, and one of the daughters and heyres of John Ford, of Frating, in the countie of Eſſex, Eſq; who having lyved vertuouſly and comfortably with her ſaid huſband, 44 years, did beare unto him 4 ſonnes and 9 daughters, whereof there are yet twelve alive to her great comfort, being all growne to the perfect ſtate of men and women.—On the ſummit is the ſhield of Hovell, ſable, a creſcent, or, impaling Ford, argent, a wolf ſalient, ſable.

On

On another mural monument are the effigies of a man in armour, and his wife, kneeling at a deſk, with the arms of Hovell, and Ford, quarterly, impaling, or, on a bend, vert, three bucks heads, caboſhed, argent, Fernley.

At the north eaſt corner of the chancel is an altar tomb of marble, and iron rails before it, with the arms of Folkes, vert, a fleur de lis; and Hovell, in an eſcutcheon of pretence: the creſt, an arm erect, holding a ſpear.

Here lyes the body of Martin Folkes, late of Hillington, in the county of Norfolk, Eſq; who was born the 28th day of Auguſt, 1640, *and died the 17th day of February*, 1705.

On a grave-ſtone—*Lillius Hovell, filius Guli. Hovell militis, et uxoris ejus, Etheldredæ, obt. 3 die Maij Ao. Domi.* 1664, *ætatis ſuæ die 24to.*

Thomas, the ſecond ſon of Sir Will. Hovell, and Dame Etheldreda his wife, born the laſt day of Febr. 1667, *and died the 14th day of October*, 1668.

Hic jacet corpus Gulielmi Hovell, militis, qui obt. 4 die Martij, ao. 1669, *ætatis ſuæ* 33; and the arms of Hovell.

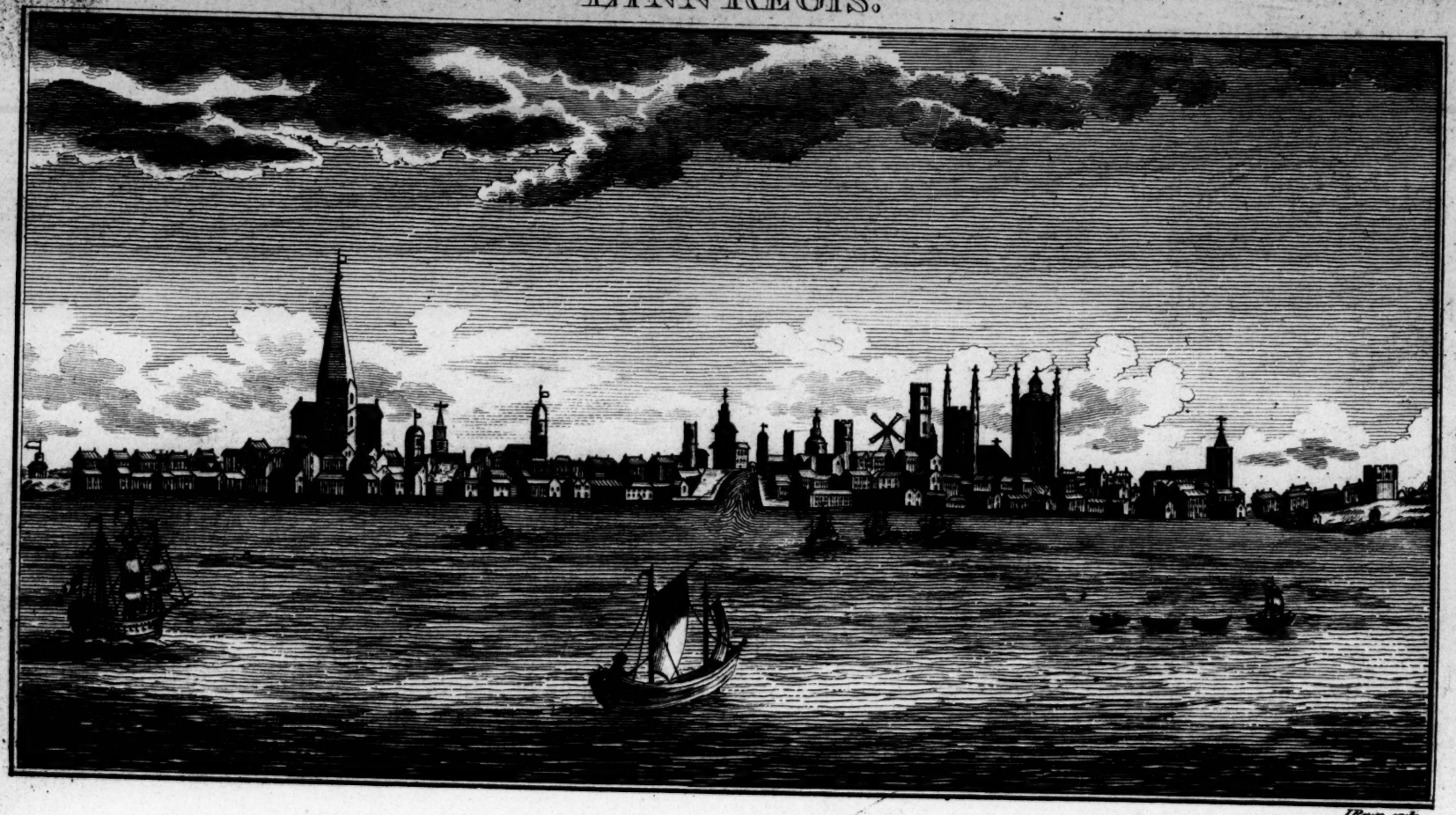
William Poſthumus, the younger ſon of Sir William Hovell, knight, and Dame Etheldreda his wife, born the 8 of Auguſt, 1670, *and dyed the 12 of April*, 1671.

Maria conjux Johis. Novell, rectoris hujus eccleſiæ, obt. Nov. 28, 1706.

Richard Hovell, Eſq; ſon to Sir Richard Hovell, of Hillington, died Octr. 23, *in* 1715, *aged* 70.

There

LYNN REGIS.



I.Roys sculp.

Inscribed to the Corporation of the Borough of Lynn Regis.

There are elegant marble monuments in the chancel to the memory of ſir William Browne, knt. and lady Browne; and to the memory of the late William Folkes, eſq. and his lady, daughter of ſir William and lady Browne, mother to ſir Martin Folkes, bart. the preſent lord of the manor.

The preſent rector of Hillington is the Rev. William Nelſon, preſented in 1758 by ſir Simeon Stuart, bart. The next preſentation is in ſir Martin Folkes.

LYNN REGIS or KING's LYNN;

FORMERLY CALLED

LYNN EPISCOPI or BISHOP's LYNN.

NEAR the mouth of the Great Ouſe, and the waſhes, called *Æſtuarium Metaris*, probably from the Britiſh word Maltraith, according to Camden, a name by which the Britons called ſuch Æſtuaries or Tides in other places, and importing no more than an uncertain Æſtuary or Tide, ſtands Lynn.

In the book of Doomſday this town is wrote Lena and Lun. Camden was of opinion, that it took its name from its ſpreading waters, that being implied in the Britiſh word Lhyn; but Spelman affirms that the right name is Len, from *Len* in Saxon, a farm or tenure in fee; ſo *Fanelhen* among the Germans, is the tenure or fee of a baron, and *Len Epiſcopi* is the biſhop's farm: We have no doubt that this is the true derivation of the name to this celebrated

brated town. Spelman farther obſerves, that the word Len is uſed alſo in a more limited ſenſe by the Saxons to ſignify church lands, and appeals to the ſeveral names of places wherein that ſenſe of the word holds; and farther *Ter-llen* in the Welch language is *Terra Eccleſiæ*, or land belonging to the church.

Camden was of opinion that the town was not of any antiquity, but ſprung out of the ruins of what is called Old Lynn, or Weſt Lynn, which lies on the weſt and oppoſite ſide of the great river Ouſe, and, with ſir Henry Spelman, ſuppoſes it to be called in the time of the Saxons, Maydenburgh, importing, the Maiden's Bowre, *Virginis Sacrarium et velut Thalamus*, the chapel, or retiring place of the virgin, that is, of St. Margaret the Virgin, the tutelar ſaint or patroneſs of the town.

Etymologiſts have been very deficient on this ſubject: they relate that this town aſſumed its name from the head of one of thoſe eleven thouſand virgins, or maidens heads, who ſuffered with St. Urſula, which head was had in great veneration and worſhipped in the ſaid town of Maidenhead: but Sirmondus, a learned jeſuit, has expoſed this ſtale monkiſh tradition and fiction, and ſhewn that Urſula and Undecimilla were two virgin ſaints and martyrs, and the name of Undecimilla came through the ignorance of ſome tranſcriber to be wrote and changed into *Undecem Millia*, that is in Engliſh, eleven thouſand; and thus by one ſtroke of the pen ſo great a number of virgins were canonized.

The name of this town is not only a proof of its antiquity, but the principal lordſhip of the town confirms it, which was at the ſurvey, and in the reign

reign of the Confeſſor, in the ſee of Elmham, or the Eaſt Angles. What king gave it to that ſee, does not appear, but it is highly probable that Felix, the firſt biſhop of the Eaſt Angles, was in poſſeſſion of it and of Elmham about the year 630, and Bedwin was biſhop of Elmham in 673.

That its ſituation anſwers its name and derivation appears from its real ſcite, on a great level or flat ſilty ſoil, cloſe to the eaſt ſide of the great river Ouſe, which brings with it to this port, from its riſe in Northamptonſhire, the waters of Buckingham, Bedford, Huntingdon and Cambridgeſhire, with thoſe of Norfolk and Suffolk, and empties itſelf below this port into the great Britiſh ocean.

The river Nar, or Sechy river, falls alſo into the Ouſe near the ſouth gates of Lynn.

The river that comes from Aſhwicken, Mintling, &c. runs croſs the town, and empties itſelf at Lady Bridge, as does the river from Gayton and Leſiate, by Purfleet Bridge.

To this we may add that the ſea meeting all theſe waters with great rage and violence on ſpring tides and tempeſtuous, windy weather forces them back, and at times occaſions inundations, and more frequently in former times, before the many banks, mounds, &c. were raiſed, which now guard and defend it, which if removed or neglected, would reduce it to its original ſtate, and render it again as a pool or lake.

The country alſo on the weſt ſide of the Ouſe, called Marſhland, is ſubject from its ſcite, ſurrounded on every ſide with water, to be overflowed both

by freſh and ſalt waters. Before the year 1181, it was ſo drowned, that there was no dwelling-houſe, or land, that any profit could be made of in the town of Wiggenhall St. Mary Magdalen, from Buſtard Dole to the ſouthern bounds or end of it, except the monaſtery or hermitage of Crabhouſe, or Crab-Ouſe, but all was a ſea.

The river Nene alſo uſed to flow directly from Peterborough to Lynn; and in the 3d of king Edward III. it was found to do ſo, till Walter de Langton, biſhop of Litchfield and Coventry, lord treaſurer to king Edward I. had twenty-eight years laſt paſt ſtopped up the paſſage of it at Upwell, to drain his manor of Coldham; the waters that then bounded Lynn were called the waters of Lynn, and the marſhes on that ſide, as far as Weſt Walton, were called the marſhes of Lynn.

In the 11th year of king Edward II. a commiſſion of Sewers was directed to John de Ingaldeſthorpe, and Richard de Walſingham, reciting that in South Lynn, above five hundred marks damage was done, on account of the defect of gutters, ſewers and drains; and in the 11th of Edward III. the ſaid townſhip was greatly damaged and impoveriſhed, by inundations from the ſea, and the loſs in the country about Lynn was ſo great, that the king in compaſſion remitted their taxes.

In the 2d of Richard II. a commiſſion was directed to William Ufford, earl of Suffolk, &c. on complaint of the towns of Wiggenhall, Iſlington, Tilney, Clenchwarton, Watlington, Runcton, Holme, Setchy and Weſt Winch, that the river Ouſe, which ran through thoſe townſhips into the ſea, and was within thirty years paſt not above twelve perches broad,

broad, by the breaches in, and decay of the banks, was grown to the breadth of a mile; upon which, by an inquiſition at Wiggenhall, it was found that the banks on both ſides of the ſaid river were ſo much broken, that not only thoſe townſhips, but alſo South Lynn and Hardwick were in danger of being deſtroyed: and in 1570, on the 2d and 3d of October, all Marſhland was ſo drowned by the ſea waters, that there were not ten rods of whole ſea bank from Old or Weſt Lynn to Magdalen Bridge in Wiggenhall; and on November 1, 1613, the ſea broke in with ſuch violence on Marſhland, that the damage was eſtimated at thirty-ſeven thouſand eight hundred and ſixty-two pounds, and many inundations have been ſince that time.

On the ſouth-eaſt parts of this town, from the hamlet of Hardwick, (which ſignifies a turn of water at the point of hard land) to the ſouth gates of Lynn, is raiſed a long and broad ſubſtantial cauſeway over the marſh, as a ſecurity (as well as a road) againſt the waters on that ſide; and between Hardwick and Weſt Winch is a conſiderable ditch and bank (antiently called Green Dike) joining to the aforeſaid cauſeway; and like banks, &c. may be obſerved to the eaſt and north-eaſt parts of the ſaid town, as far as Gaywood bridge.

Such a ſituation as this was particularly made choice of, on account of the difficulty of acceſs in time of danger, or approach of an enemy; being eaſily fortified and defended: and on account of trade, eaſe and conveniency of importing and exporting all manner of goods and merchandiſe, to and from foreign countries. Such a ſituation as this, Camillus, the Roman Dictator, applauded and boaſted of in his ſpeech to the citizens of Old Rome,

and encouraged them to keep poſſeſſion of it, and not to deſert it, when the Gauls had ſacked it.—*Non ſine cauſa Dij, Hominesq; hunc urbi condendæ locum elegerunt, flumen enim opportunum, quo ex mediterraneis locis fruges devebantur, quo maritimi commeatus accipiantur. Mare vicinum ad commoditates, nec expoſitum nimia propinquitate ad periculum claſſium exteraram.*

Having thus treated on the name and ſcite of this burgh, the next particular that offers itſelf, will be to conſider the ancient tenures or lordſhips of it; the moſt ancient and authentic account of this is from the Conqueror's book of Doomſday, made in the year 1085, at which time, and in the Confeſſor's, this town, with the townſhips or hamlets of Weſt, North and South Lynn, we find to be all included under the general name of Lena, and Lun, the diſtinction of Weſt, North and South not being till ſome centuries after, as will appear under the hiſtory of thoſe places.

In this moſt valuable book we learn, that Ralph, lord Tony, had a lordſhip in Lena, which Harold held in king Edward's time, and which he loſt with his crown at the battle of Haſtings; this was South Lynn.

Ralph, lord Baynard, had in Lena a lordſhip; this was alſo in South Lynn, and extended into the other hamlets.

Hermer de Ferrarijs had in Lun a lordſhip; this was in Weſt Lynn, and alſo extended into the other hamlets.

Rainald, ſon of Ivo, had a lordſhip in Lena, which extended into all the hamlets.

The

The abbot alſo of Bury had in Lena a lordſhip; this was North Lynn.

Theſe are the only lordſhips (with ſome few particulars that are to be found relating to them) that occur under the name of Lena, or Lun.

But none of theſe lords were the chief, or capital lords of that part of Lena or Lynn which is now called the burgh: the two great lords of that, in the Confeſſor's reign, were Agelmare biſhop of Elmham, as lord of Gaywood, in right of that ſee, and Stigand, as lord of the manor of Riſing, and of the hundred of Freebridge, which Stigand was archbiſhop of Canterbury, but held this and many more lordſhips in his own right, as a lay fee. Agelmare and Stigand are not expreſsly named under the name of Lena, to be lords of the town, though Stigand is mentioned to have the ſoc of the lordſhips of Ralph lord Baynard, Hermer de Ferrarijs, and Rainold, ſon of Ivo, probably as lord of the hundred: and the reaſon of their not being mentioned as lords of this part, (the burgh part) is, becauſe that was included, valued and accounted for under the lordſhips of Gaywood and Riſing, and the burgh part was as beruites, or little manors, depending on thoſe great and capital ones, which extended into that part. Many towns are not mentioned in the book of Doomſday, which has induced hiſtorians to conclude, that they were not in being at that time, and has been the occaſion of great miſtakes, they not reflecting on the true end and deſign of the book, which was to ſet forth every tenure, under the capital manor to which it belonged, in the town where that capital manor had its ſcite: ſo that the town wherein ſuch a tenure lay is not often mentioned, and when it is, it is named to be a beruite

to the ſaid capital manor. Many examples of this are to be found, and ſuch is the caſe now before us.

LYNN BISHOP'S MANOR. One part or moiety, at leaſt, if not more, was, as we have obſerved, in Agelmare, or Ailmar, biſhop of Elmham, a Saxon married prelate, in the time of king Edward the Confeſſor, in right of his capital manor of Gaywood, which extended into this town, and being deprived of his ſee of Elmham, of which Gaywood was a member, in 1070, was ſucceeded by Herfaſt, or Arfaſt, who removed his ſee from Elmham to Thetford, and was lord. On whoſe death William de Beaufoe was preferred to it, and was biſhop when the grand ſurvey was made, in 1085, when it appears from the ſaid book, that he was lord of Gaywood, and conſequently of this manor, in right of his ſee of Thetford. Herbert his ſucceſſor tranſlated the ſee to Norwich, and on his foundation of the priory of the Holy Trinity in his church of Norwich in 1101, gave the church of Lynn, with a manor, all his ſalt-works, and marſhes, at Gaywood and Lynn, to the priory aforeſaid, to hold them as freely, quit and exempt of all cuſtoms and ſervices, as he himſelf, Arfaſt and William, his predeceſſors, enjoyed them; and erected alſo a priory as a cell to that of Norwich, on the ſouth ſide of St. Margaret's church which he had built.

That it was a place of trade and conſequence, before and in the reign of the Conqueror, and the capital manor in Lena, appears from its enjoying the privilege of certain duties and cuſtoms, with a toll-booth in this town, and before the Norman conqueſt, payable on the arrival of any goods or merchandiſes by ſea or land; and the biſhop was then in full poſſeſſion of a moiety, which the Conqueror on

on his deprivation ſeized on, and gave to his brother Odo, biſhop of Baieux in Normandy; and on his rebellion againſt king William II. that king granted it to William de Albini, his butler, called *Pincerna Regis*. How long before this the biſhops of Elmham enjoyed this, we cannot determine, or when they had the firſt grant of this manor, but it is highly probable, it was very early in the Saxon age; and at that time they had the grant of the towns of Dunwich and Elmham, about the year 630, and Bedwin on a diviſion of the fee of Dunwich, held the fee of Elmham in 673.

William of Newburgh, who lived in the reign of Richard I. calls Lynn *Urbs commeatu et commercijs nobilis*, a city noble or of note, for its trade and commerce; and the Jews, a people in all ages famous on this account, had great numbers (as he relates) of them ſettled here, and being enraged on the converſation of one of their body to Chriſtianity, they ſet upon him, in order to have ſlain him; who, to prevent it, took ſanctuary in a church: they broke open the doors, and would have taken him out by force. On this noiſe and uproar a number of the Chriſtians came to his reſcue, but the inhabitants being in fear of the king, who had taken the Jews under his protection, acted on the reſerve; on which many young ſtrangers and foreigners, who were in the town on account of their trade, fell on the Jews, killed ſeveral of them, burnt and plundered their houſes, and theſe foreigners, to avoid the king's anger, took ſhipping directly with their ſpoil. At this day there is a ſtreet called from them, Jews Street, where they lived together: they had then great indulgences, which they paid the government for; bought houſes and lands, which rendered them hated by the natives and Chriſtians; and in many ancient deeds

deeds may be ſeen a form of warranty againſt ſelling land, &c. to them, viz.—*Et cuicunq; dare, vendere, et aſſignare voluent, præterquam domuj religioſæ et Judaiſmo, vel Judæis.*

John de Grey, biſhop of Norwich in the year 1204, being deſirous of poſſeſſing thoſe lands, privileges, &c. in this town, which Herbert his predeceſſor, &c. had conveyed to the priory of Norwich, made an exchange with them; and the priory reſigned to him and his ſucceſſors, all their rights and profits in the fairs of Lynn and Gaywood, and all their rents and perquiſites which they had in Lynn, or without.

And the ſaid biſhop by another deed, then dated, appropriated to the ſaid priory the church of St. Margaret, with all its ſpiritualities, tithes, oblations and obventions, with the chapels of St. Nicholas and St. James; alſo the church of Mintling, with all its appurtenances; with all the tithe belonging to the demean lands of his lordſhip of Gaywood; on condition that they take care to have the ſaid churches and chapels ſerved by their chaplains, to be removed or admitted, on any juſt cauſe, at the will of the biſhop; and that it ſhould be lawful for him only to erect any chapel in the aforeſaid pariſhes, and if any was erected, the priory ſhould have the ſole profit of it.

The town by this exchange being for the greateſt part again in the biſhops of Norwich, obtained the name of Biſhop's Lynn, and was ſo called in all deeds and writings, till alienated to the crown in the reign of king Henry VIII.

This

This biſhop, John de Grey, built a ſtately palace at Gaywood, and having certified to king John the exchange made between him and the priory of Norwich, he obtained a grant from the king of a free burgh for this town.

The king in his charter ſets forth, "That on the "requeſt of John, the ſecond of that name, biſhop "of Norwich, he had granted that the village of "Lenn ſhould be a free burgh for ever, and have "all the liberties and free cuſtoms, which free "burghs have in all reſpects, ſaving to that biſhop "and his ſucceſſors, and to William earl of Arun-"del and his heirs, thoſe liberties and cuſtoms, "which they have of old held in the ſaid village, "&c."

JOANNES Dej gratia, &c.—Noveritis Nos ad inſtantiam, et petitionem venerabilis patris noſtri, Joh. Norwic. Epiſci. ſecundi, conceſſiſſe, et hac p' ſenti charta noſtra confirmaſſe, qd. villa de Lenn, ſit liber Burgus in perpetuum, et habeat omnes libertates et liberas conſuetudines quas liberj burgi habent in omnib; ſalvis ipſo Epiſc°. et ſucceſſor. ſuis, et Will°. Comitj Arundel, et heredib. ſuis, libertatib; et conſuetudinib; quas ipſi in p'dicta villa antiquitus habuerunt. Quare volumus, et firmiter p'cipimus qd. p'dicta villa de Lenn, ſit liber Burgus in p' petuum, et habeat omnes libertates et conſuetudines liberas quas liberi burgi noſtri habent in omnibus, bene, et in pace, libere et quiete et integre, plenarie et honorifice, ſicut p'dictum eſt.

It is to be obſerved here, that as the king had by charter granted Lynn to be a free burgh, ſo it was neceſſary that the biſhop, as lord of the burgh, ſhould do the ſame, and was undoubtedly obliged alſo to certify his conſent, and approve of the ſame.

The

The following is the charter of John de Grey, biſhop of Norwich, to the burgeſſes of Lynn.

CHARTA Joh. Le Grey, Epiſci. Norwic. Burgensibus de Lenna.

OMNIB; ad quos præſens ſcriptum p'venerit—Johan. Dei gratia Norvicenſ. Epiſc. ſalut. in Dno. ſempiternam—Noverit univerſitas veſtra nos conceſſiſſe et p' ſentj charta confirmaſſe ville noſtre de Lenn, viz. Toti parochie eccl'ie Sce. Margarete in eadem villa, et omnib; hominib; in ead. parochia manentib; omnes et eaſdem libertates quas habent burgenſes de Oxeneford, quia Dominus Rex nobis p. chartam ſuam conceſſit, ut eligeremus burgum in Anglia quem cunq; vellemus, ut eaſdem libertates quas burgus ille habet, haberet et villa noſtra de Lenna, et nos elegimus Oxeneſordiam. Et ideo volumus, qd. eadem villa liber ſit burgus, et eaſdem libertates habeat, quas habet burgus de Oxeneford in omnib; ſalvis nobis et ſucceſſoribus noſtris in perpetuum, omnib; libertatib; et conſuetudinib; quas habuimus et habemus in villa noſtra de Lenna, ſecundum quod charta Dni Regis Anglie Johanniſt eſtatur, quam nobis fecit de libertatib; eidem burgo collatis. Quare volumus et p'cipimus, ut p'dicti burgenſes habeant et teneant omnes res et poſſeſſiones ſuas libere et quiete, honorifice, plenarie et integre ſecundum quod ſupradiximus.—Hijs teſtib; Galfrido, Archidiacono Norwic. Thome Fratre ſuo, Magr°. Will°. de Lenna, Magr°. Rob. de Glouceſtre, Ran°. de Harpel, Jordano Capellano, Joh. de Uffinch, Hen° filio Simeonis, Rob°. Grey, Nich°. de Linſey, Ric°. Baſſet, Regin°. de Nottingham, et multis aliis—Dat. apud London. p. manum Mag. Galfridi de Derham 9°. kalend, Apr. Pontifecat. noſtri A°. Quarto.

To this was the biſhop's ſeal, his effigies in pontificalibus, and *Joh. Dei gratia epiſcop Norwicenſ.*—

the

the reverſe—the Holy Lamb, with the croſs, and *Ecce Agnus Dei qui tollit peccata mundi.*

Agreeable therefore to this choice, and requeſt of the biſhop, king John grants what is called the Grand Charter of Lynn, in his 6th year, September 14, by which it became a free burgh for ever, with ſoc and ſac, tholl, theam, infangthief and outſangthief, free through all his land and ports, of tolls and tallage, paſſage, payage, pontage, laſtage, lione and Danegeld, and all other cuſtoms, excepting the liberties of the city of London, and from all ſuit of country or hundred court, for tenures within the burgh of Lenn; and that none of them ſhould be impleaded out of the burgh in any plea, but in thoſe of foreign tenures; and that all trials of murder ſhould be in the ſaid burgh, and the burgeſſes freed from all trials by combat or duel, and if impleaded in any, except a foreign one, they might traverſe the ſame, according to the law and cuſtom of Oxford; that no one ſhould have dwelling or entertainment there by force, or aſſignment of the earl marſhal; that no miſkenning be allowed; that they keep a huſting court once a week, and have a merchant's guild, &c. according to that of Oxford, and all pleas thereto belonging to be held at Lenn. And if any one throughout all England ſhould take toll or cuſtom from any burgeſs, except the citizens of London, the provoſt of Lenn may recover damages by the writ of *Namium.* That all merchants whatever may come to the ſaid burgh with their merchandiſe, and depart freely and ſafe, having paid the juſt cuſtoms and dues of the ſaid burgh; and no one is to offer any injury to, or moleſt the ſaid burgeſſes, under the penalty of ten pounds; and if the burgeſſes ſhould be in any doubt in any point what to do, they ſhould ſend meſſengers to Oxford, and what the burgeſſes

burgeſſes of Oxford ſhould determine, ſhould be firm and valid, ſaving to the ſaid John, biſhop of Norwich, and his ſucceſſors for ever, and to William earl of Arundel, and his heirs, the liberties, &c. which they have held, and ought to hold in the ſaid village of Lenn, for ever.

Witneſſes—Jeffrey Fitz Piers earl of Eſſex, William earl of Saliſbury, William Briewer, Thomas Baſſet, Alan Baſſet, Simon de Pateſhull, William de Cantilupe, James de Poterna, John de Stokes, Andrew de Beaucham.

Given under the hand of Hugh, archdeacon of Wells, at Lutgerſhall, 14 September, anno 6.

Johannis Dei gratia Rex Angl. D'ns. Hib. Dux Norm. Aquit. Com. Andeg. Archiep. Epiſc. Abbat. Comit. Baron. Juſtic. Vicecomitib; Prepoſitis, Minſt. et Omn. Ballivis et Fidelib; ſuis, Salut.

" NOVERITIS NOS ad inſtantiam et petitionem " venerab. patris noſtri J. Norwicenſ. Epis. ſecundi, " conceſſiſſe et p' ſenti charta noſtra confirmaſſe " Burgenſib; de Lenna quod burgus de Lenna ſit lib. " burgus in p'petuum, et habeat ſocc. et ſacc. tholl, " theam, inſangenethief et utfangeneth, et quod ipſe " per totam terram noſtram, et per omnes portus ma- " ris quieti ſint de tholon. ſtallagio, paſſagio, paag. " pontag. leſtag. et de line, et de Daneg. et omnia " alia conſuetudine, ſalva libertat. civitatis London. " et qd. nullam ſectam comit. vel hundredor. faci- " ant de tenuris infra Burgum de Lenna. Conceſſi- " mus autem eiſd. burgenſ. et hac charta noſtra con- " firmavimus qd. nullus eor. placitet extra Burgum " de Lenna de ullo placito, preterplacita de tenuris

" exterioribus

" exterioribus. Conceſſimus et eis quietantiam mur-
" dri infra burgum de Lenna; et qd. nullus eorum
" faciat duellum, et qd. de placitis ad coronam p'ti-
" nentib; ſe poſſint diſrationare ſecundum legem et
" conſuetud. Oxon. et qd. infra Burgum p'dict. ne-
" mo capiat hoſpitium p. vim, vel p. liberationem
" mareſcallorum; et qd. in Burgo illo in nullo pla-
" cito ſit miſkenninga, et qd. huſteng ſemel tantum
" in Edomada teneatur. Conceſſimus etiam eis
" gildam mercatoriam, et qd. terras et tenuras vadia
" ſua et debita ſua omnia juſte habeant quicunq;
" eis debeat, et de terris ſuis et tenuris que infra Bur-
" gum p'dict. ſunt rectum eis teneatur ſecund. le-
" gem et conſuetud. Burgi Oxon. et de omnib; de-
" bitis ſuis que accommoda fuerint apd. Lennam, et
" de vadiis ibidem factis placita apud Lennam tene-
" antur; et ſi quis in tota Anglia theolon. et con-
" ſuetud. a Burgenſ. de Lenna ceperit, excepta ut
" ſuperius civitate London. poſtquam ipſe a recto
" defecerit, prepoſitus de Lenna Namium inde apud
" Lennam capiat. Inſuper ad emendation. p'dicti
" Burgi de Lenne conceſſimus qd. quicunq: merca-
" tores petierint Burgum de Lenna cum mercato ſuo,
" de quocunq; loco fuerint, ſive extranei, ſive alij
" qui de pace noſtra fuerint, vel de licentia noſtra in
" terram noſtram venerint, veniant, morentur, et re-
" cedantur in ſalva pace noſtra reddendo rectas con-
" ſuetudines illius Burgi. Prohibemus et nequis
" p'dict. Burgenſib; injuriam vel dampnum vel mo-
" leſtiam faciat, ſuper forisfacturam decem librarum.
" Preterea conceſſimus eiſd. Burgenſ. qd. ſi de ali-
" quo judicio dubitaverint vel contenderint quid fa-
" cere debeant, de hoc mittant nuntios ſuos Oxon.
" et qd. inde Burgenſ. Oxon. judicaverint, ratum et
" firmum habeatur. Salvis in p'petuum p'dicto J.
" Norwic. Epiſco. et ſucceſs. ſuis, et Willo. Co-
" miti Arundell et hered. ſuis, libertatib; et conſue-
" tud.

" tud. quaſi in p'dicta villa de Lenna antiquitus ha-
" buerunt et habere debuerunt. Quare volumus
" et firmiter percipimus qd. p'dicti Burgenſ. de Len-
" na et heredes eor. hec omnia p'dicta hereditarie
" in p'petuum habeant et teneant, bene et in pace,
" libere quiete integre plenarie, et honorifice ſicut
" p'dictum eſt.

" Teſtib; Gaufrido Fil. Petri Com. Eſſex, Willo.
" Com. Sarum. Willo. Briewer, Tho. Baſſet, Si-
" mone de Pateſhull. Willo. de Kauntilup. Jacobo
" de Potern. J. de Stoke, And. de Bellocampo.

" Dat. p. manu' Hugonis Archidiac. Wellenſ.
" apud Lutegareſhal decimo quarto die Septemb.
" anno regni noſtri ſexto."

And what privileges could not this powerful and rich prelate obtain of his king, who in his 5th year had pawned to him his regalia, the great crown of England, the gilt ſword, ſurcoat, tunick and dalmatick of Edward the Confeſſor, with his girdle, ſandals, gloves, ſpurs, &c. all which he received by the hands of John de Ufford, the king's chaplain. To this we may add, that all or moſt of this king's prime miniſters were natives of this county. Hubert, archbiſhop of Canterbury, &c. was born at Weſt Dereham; Hubert de Burgh, earl of Kent, lord juſticiary of England, governor of Dover caſtle, &c. at Burgh in Flegg hundred, as was his brother Jeffrey, biſhop of Ely; and John de Brancaſter, and Jeffrey Fitz Pier, earl of Eſſex, juſticiary of England, &c. was founder of Shouldham abbey.

The town of Lynn had alſo the privilege of coining money. How long it held this privilege is not clear. King Edward III. in his 18th year, reduced all

all coinage to the ſtandard of the Tower of London, and enjoined all other mints to take their coining tools or ſtamps from the Tower, allowing them but one pound and five ſhillings profit in the coinage of one hundred pounds, ſo that other mints grew weary, and left it off; and probably from this time the mint here became uſeleſs.

Hiſtorians differ much in their opinions as to the king who firſt granted to the borough of Lynn the honour of a mayor; ſome aſſerting that it was king John, others that it was his ſucceſſor Henry III. It is certain the firſt or chief magiſtrate of Lynn, while under the biſhop, till the reign of king John was a *præpoſitus* or provoſt, but that there was a mayor in the reign of king John is equally as certain, as appears by his letters patent, dated June 7, 1216, in the 18th year of his reign, at the Devizes in Wiltſhire, directed

To the Mayor and good men of Lynn.

At what time king John granted their charter is not with certainty known: theſe letters are however a ſufficient proof, that king John was the king that granted this honour, and not king Henry III. and that it was a mayor town of ſome continuance in the year 1233.

King John underwent great diſtreſſes for the ſpace of above four months before his death, flying from one place of defence to another for refuge, in conſtant dread and fear of his rebellious barons, being truely perſecuted and hunted by them, as a partridge on the mountains: taken from the authority of the patent rolls.

On

On the 3d of June, in his 18th year, 1216, he was at Wincheſter; on the 7th at Lutgerſhall in Wiltſhire; at the Divizes in Wiltſhire on the ſame day, as by his patent to the mayor of Lynn abovementioned, alſo an the 9th; at Wilton the 14th, at Sherminſter the 15th, and at Bere in Dorſetſhire the 20th; at Corf Caſtle the 24th of June and 4th of July: at Warham July 7, at Corf Caſtle the 16th; at Hay, on the edge of Brecknockſhire in Wales, and Hereford the 21ſt, at Hereford the 30th, and at Lempſter the 31ſt; at Blaunchminſter Auguſt 7, at Whitchurch 9, at Shrewſbury 14, at Bruges or Bridgenorth 16, at Worceſter 17, at Glouceſter 18, at Berkley in Glouceſterſhire 19, at Briſtol 21, at Corf 25, at Wells 27, at Bath 28, and on the ſaid day at Sherborne in Dorſetſhire, at Bradford 29, and Chipenham in Wiltſhire 30; at Cirenceſter in Glouceſterſhire September 1, at Burford in Oxfordſhire the 2d, at Oxford the 3d, 4th and 5th, at Reading the 7th, at Sunning the 8th; after this at Wallingford, Ayleſbury, Buckingham and Bedford; at Cambridge September 16, at Clare in Suffolk 18, at Clive or King's Cliffe, in Northamptonſhire, 20, at Rockingham 21, at Lincoln 22, at Scoter in Lincolnſhire 25, at Lincoln 28, and October the 1ſt and 2d; at Louth October the 4th, at Grimſby the 7th and at Spalding the 8th, at Lynn October 9 and 10, at Wiſbeach the 12th, at Lafford (Sleford) the 15th, on the 18th at Newark, where he granted that day a patent to F. de Breant, of the honor of Lutin, late Baldwin's, earl of Albemarle; and on Oct. 19 he died in the night at this town.

Some hiſtorians relate that he was poiſoned by a monk of Swinſtede abbey; but he ſeems by this journal not to have gone by Swineſhead: it is certain that he was paſt that town on the 15th, and was

was at Sleford; and it is not to be conceived, had he been there poiſoned, he could have proceeded to Newark, and died there about five days at leaſt after he had taken the poiſon, which killed (as is ſaid) the monk who took the ſame, in a very ſhort ſpace of time.

The places above-mentioned where he took refuge were places of ſtrength, and had their caſtles, whereas Swineſhead was no place of defence or ſecurity: the daily ſucceſs of his rebellious barons, with Lewis the French king's ſon at their head, his many loſſes and conſtant fatigue, had ſo much impaired his health, that it is no wonder if they haſtened his death, and that he was no longer able to bear them.

Swineſhead was a very rich and ſpacious abbey in Lincolnſhire, the ruins of which are ſtill remaining. Some hiſtorians relate, that king John on his march from Lynn, in order to attack the army of Lewis, dauphin of France, aided by the rebellious barons, loſt, on his croſſing the waſhes at an improper time of the tide, all his baggage, proviſion, and treaſures, ſcarcely eſcaping with himſelf and his troops. On his arrival at the abbey of Swineſhead, (or as it was formerly wrote Swineſtead) he was received by the abbot and monks with great hoſpitality, who made ſumptuous entertainments for him, which the king obſerving, condemned their prodigality, and ſwore "if he lived one year longer, he would make "one halfpenny loaf as dear as twelve." Being overheard by one of the monks, it is ſaid he preſented him with an envenomed cup, firſt taſting of it himſelf, by which he became the wicked inſtrument of his own and his ſovereign's death, October 19, 1216. But this account is looked upon as fabulous. It is very unlikely the king ſhould en-

tertain ſuch ungrateful ſentiments towards the abbot and friars, who had ſo nobly received him: it is more unlikely that he ſhould give ſuch ſentiments utterance, when in diſtreſs, and taking refuge amongſt them.

Before the king left Lynn, on this his laſt viſit, he preſented the corporation with a moſt curious cup, called at this day *King John's Cup*, a moſt admired piece of antiquity of ſilver, gilt with gold on the inſide, adorned with beautiful imagery and enamelled work, in the keeping of every mayor, uſed on certain ſolemn occaſions, and ſhewn to gentlemen as a great curioſity, in memory of their founder and great benefactor, filled with ſack.

As for the ſword, it is believed that the king gave none to be borne before the mayor; and Spelman has given a very good reaſon for it. It was, ſays he, an epiſcopal burgh, the biſhop of Norwich being lord of it, and not a royal burgh or demeſne, and there ſeems to be proof that no ſuch inſignia belonged to it in Henry IV.'s time, but was a grant from king Henry V.

The mayor is annually elected on the feaſt of St. John, Auguſt 29, and ſworn into his office on September 29; at which time he gives an elegant entertainment to the corporation and the county gentlemen and ladies in the neighbourhood. At this feaſt king John's cup, after dinner, is handed to the mayor, who preſents it to his predeceſſor; he takes off the lid, and drinks the king's health; the late mayor then places the lid on the cup, and after certain ceremonies of turning the cup round, the mayor delivers it to the late mayor, and with the ſame ceremonies it paſſes down the mayor's table; from thence

it

it is carried to the mayoreſs and the ladies. This form is alone ſanctified by cuſtom immemorial; for politeneſs would dictate to have the cup carried to the ladies firſt.

As to the ſword now carried before the mayor, and ſuppoſed to have been the gift of king John, taken from his own ſide, as the inſcription upon it imports,

Enſis hic Donum fuit Regis Joannis a' ſuo ipſius latere datum.

Various are the opinions of hiſtorians, but the moſt probable is, that it was given to the corporation by king Henry VIII. when the town coming into his poſſeſſion, and ever ſince called Lynn Regis, or King's Lynn, he granted them a charter, and allowed them many privileges.

Sir Henry Spelman ſays, that he was aſſured by the town-clerk of Lynn, in the year 1630, that the ſword-bearer of Lynn in the reign of queen Elizabeth, 1580, procured the above inſcription from the ſchoolmaſter of Lynn, as one ſide of the hilt was plain, and had it engraved thereon.

It cannot be ſuppoſed that any king could wear ſuch a ſword by his ſide, but it might have been brought him, and put to his ſide, for the expreſs purpoſe of preſenting it to the mayor on ſome particular occaſion, and thereby rendering the gift more honourable to the corporation.

Beſides this ſword of antiquity, four ſilver maces, gilt, are carried before the mayor on all proceſſions, and in theſe, with the ſword, the preſent regalia conſiſt.

On the 29th of Auguſt the mayor calls a hall for the election of a ſucceſſor, who is choſe by the common council, as the common council are by the court of aldermen; but if any diſpute ſhould ariſe, and the mayor ſhould break up the hall aſſembly, the common council may ſit down upon the ſteps of the hall and chooſe a mayor, if ten out of the eighteen are unanimous, and this election the court of aldermen cannot controvert.

The corporation conſiſts of a mayor, a recorder, twelve aldermen, and eighteen common council men. The election for repreſentatives in parliament is in the whole body of the freemen at large, and the mayor for the time being is returning officer.

The following is a correct liſt of mayors of this antient borough from Henry III. the mayors in the reign of king John being uncertain.

MAYORS, *ſans* date.

ROBERT, ſon of Ranulph	John Coſtyn,
Gilbert,	—— de St. Omer,
Robert,	James,
Adam L'Eſpie,	Robert de London,
William de Carleton,	James de Beauvreys,
	James de Bevate,

HENRY III.

A. R.		*A. D.*
52	——	1268
53	——	1269
54	Andrew —— ——	1270
55	James de Belvaco ——	1271
56	Robert de London ——	1272

This prince died November 26.

EDWARD

EDWARD I.

A. R.		*A. D.*
1	———	1273
2	———	1274
3	Adam ———	1275
4	———	1276
5	———	1277
6	———	1278
7	———	1279
8	Adam de Sco' Edmundo	1280
9	John de Hiſpania	1281
10	William de Lindſeye	1282
11	———	1283
12	Adam de Sancto Ed. Homero	1284
13	John de St. Omer	1285
14	Adam de Sancto Edmundo	1286
15	———	1287
16	Peter de Thurendine	1288
17	———	1289
18	John de Hiſpania	1290
19	Hugh de Maſſingham	1291
20	John de Hiſpania	1292
21	Hugh de Maſſingham	1293
22	Thomas de Wainflet	1294
23	John de Merlowe	1295
24	—— de Hiſpania	1296
25	Hugh de Maſſingham	1297
26	Thomas de Wainflet	1298
27	John de Merlowe	1299
28	The ſame	1300
29	Richard de Gerveſton	1301
30	John de Leyceſter	1302
31	—— de Thurendine, or Thorndeyn	1303
32	Thomas de Wainflet	1304
33	Jeffrey Drew	1305
34	Thomas de Sedgeford	1306

This prince died July 7.

EDWARD

EDWARD II.

A. R.		*A. D.*
1	Lambert de St. Homero ——	1307
2	Thomas de Sedgeford ——	1308
3	Peter de Thurendine, or Thornden	1309
4	Richard Houpman ——	1310
5	John de Merlowe ——	1311
6	Lambert de St. Homero ——	1312
7	The ſame ——	1313
8	The ſame ——	1314
9	John de Thornhegge ——	1315
10	The ſame ——	1316
11	Peter de Elmham ——	1317
12	Robert de Walſingham ——	1318
13	Peter de Elmham ——	1319
14	John de Thornhegge ——	1320
15	William de Frauncys ——	1321
16	The ſame ——	1322
17	John de Swerdeſton ——	1323
18	The ſame ——	1324
19	John de Thornhegge ——	1325
20	—— de Burghard ——	1326

This prince died January 25.

EDWARD III.

1	John de Swerdeſton ——	1327
2	—— de Maſſingham, or John de Cocksford	1328
3	John de Thornhegge ——	1329
4	—— de Swerdeſton ——	1330
5	—— de Burghard ——	1331
6	The ſame ——	1332
7	William de Sedgeford ——	1333
8	Adam de Walſoken ——	1334
9	William de Sedgeford ——	1335
10	John de Swerdeſton ——	1336
11	John de Burghard ——	1337
12	Thomas de Melcheburne ——	1338

A. R.		*A. D.*
13	John de Cokesford	1339
14	William de Bruiton, or Brinton	1340
15	Hugo de Beale, or Beteley	1341
16	Adam de Walfoken	1342
17	John de Maffingham	1343
18	Thomas Drue	1344
19	John de Cokesford	1345
20	—— de Swerdeſton	1346
21	—— de Maffingham	1347
22	—— de Coutſhall, and Robert de Cocking	1348
23	Robert Braunch	1349
24	Thomas Rightwis	1350
25	William de Bittering	1351
26	The ſame	1352
27	The ſame, and John de Coutſhall	1353
28	William de Swanton	1354
29	John de Coutſhall	1355
30	Thomas de Botehefham	1356
31	John Urey	1357
32	William Bittering	1358
33	Robert Braunch	1359
34	Simon de Gunton	1360
35	Thomas Drue	1361
36	Thomas de Botehefham	1362
37	Simon de Gunton	1363
38	John de Coutſhall	1364
39	William de Bittering	1365
40	John de Fincham	1366
41	Thomas Drewe	1367
42	Thomas de Botehefham	1368
43	John de Brunham, or Burnham	1369
44	Henry de Cove	1370
45	Jeffrey Talboth	1371
46	John de Docking	1372
47	Edmund de Franſham	1373
48	Robert Attelathe	1374

A. R.		*A. D.*
49	Richard Houghton ——	1375
50	John de Fincham ——	1376

This Prince died June 21.

RICHARD II.

1	John de Brunham ——	1377
2	The ſame ——	1378
3	Jeffrey Talboth ——	1379
4	John Warryn ——	1380
5	Roger Paxman — —	1381
6	Henry Betele ——	1382
7	Thomas Curſhon, or Curſon —	1383
8	John Warryn ——	1384
9	—— de Brunham ——	1385
10	—— de Warryn ——	1386
11	Thomas de Coutſhall ——	1387
12	Roger Paxman ——	1388
13	Thomas de Coutſhall ——	1389
14	Edmund Belletere ——	1390
15	John de Brunham ——	1391
16	Thomas Drue —— ——	1392
17	—— Coutſhall —— ——	1393
18	Edmund Belletere ——	1394
19	Robert Botheſham ——	1395
20	John Wace — —	1396
21	Thomas Waterden ——	1397
22	—— Drue —— —	1398

This Prince died September 29.

HENRY IV.

1	Edmund Belletere ——	1399
2	John de Wentworth ——	1400
3	The ſame —— ——	1401
4	Thomas Brigge ——	1402
5	Robert Botheſham ——	1403
6	Thomas Waterden ——	1404

7 John

A. R.		A. D.
7	John de Wentworth ——	1405
8	Robert de Brunham ——	1406
9	Thomas Brigge ——	1407
10	John Brandon ———	1408
11	The ſame — —	1409
12	Robert de Botehesham ——	1410
13	Roger Gallyon ——	1411
14	Bartholomew Pettipas —	1412

This Prince died March 20.

HENRY V.

1	Bartholomew Pettipas —	1413
2	John Lakenhithe, *ob.* Robert Brunham	1414
3	Thomas Hunt ——	1415
4	John Weaſenham ——	1416
5	William Hunderpound ——	1417
6	Thomas Hunt ——	1418
7	John Weaſenham ——	1419
8	—— Spicer ——	1420
9	The ſame — —	1421

This Prince died Auguſt 31.

HENRY VI.

1	John Spicer ———	1422
2	—— Permenter ——	1423
3	The ſame — ——	1424
4	John Thoriſby ——	1425
5	Philip Frank ———	1426
6	John Permenter ——	1427
7	The ſame ———	1428
8	Richard Waterden, *ob.* John Weaſenham	1429
9	Thomas Warſtead ——	1430
10	John Permenter ——	1431
11	—— Breckupp, or Brighteyve	1432
12	Thomas Botheſham ——	1433
13	—— Burgh — —	1434

A. R.			*A. D.*
14	John Waryn	———	1435
15	William Palmer, *ob.*	John Permenter	1436
16	Thomas Saliſbury	——	1437
17	The ſame	———	1438
18	Henry Thoriſby	———	1439
19	John Aſhenden	——	1440
20	Sim. Scotland	———	1441
21	Henry Thoriſby	———	1442
22	The ſame	— —	1443
23	William Kirton, *ob.*	John Waryn	1444
24	Thomas Saliſbury	——	1445
25	John Pygot	———	1446
26	Sim. Scotland	——	1447
27	Thomas Talboth	——	1448
28	Richard Frank	——	1449
29	William Lewis	——	1450
30	The ſame	— —	1451
31	John Gedneye	——	1452
32	Walter Cony	———	1453
33	Sim. Pygot	— —	1454
34	—— Scotland	——	1455
35	Henry Thoriſby	———	1456
36	Thomas Talboth	——	1457
37	John Nicholſon	——	1458
38	The ſame	— —	1459
39	Walter Cony	———	1460

This Prince died March 4.

EDWARD IV.

1	William Pilton	— —	1461
2	Sim. Baxter	— —	1462
3	Edmund Weſthorpe	——	1463
4	William Cawes	— —	1464
5	The ſame	— —	1465
6	Henry Birmingham	—	1466
7	Ralph Geyton	— —	1467

A. R.		*A. D.*
8	William Pilton	1468
9	Walter Cony	1469
10	Edmund Weſthorpe	1470
11	Henry Bermingham	1471
12	The ſame	1472
13	William Wales	1473
14	Walter Cony	1474
15	William Nicholſon	1475
16	Thomas Leighton	1476
17	——— Thoriſby	1477
18	Edmund Weſthorpe	1478
19	John Burbage	1479
20	William Marſh	1480
21	The ſame	1481
22	Thomas Thoriſby	1482

This Prince died April 9.

EDWARD V.

This Prince died June 22.

RICHARD III.

1	Robert Pilly	1483
2	Thomas Wright	1484

This Prince died November 22.

HENRY VII.

1	John Tilly	1485
2	Richard Goodwyn	1486
3	Robert Pilly	1487
4	John Tego	1488
5	—— Gryndell	1489
6	The ſame	1490
7	Robert Powditch	1491
8	Thomas Wright	1492
9	Edward Rowſey	1493

A. R.		*A. D.*
10	William Amſlys	1494
11	The ſame	1495
12	John Palmer	1496
13	Robert Trew	1497
14	John Taylour	1498
15	Thomas Deye	1499
16	Andrew Wuley	1500
17	Sim. Baxter	1501
18	Thomas Thoriſby	1502
19	John Palmer	1503
20	William Trew	1504
21	William Gervy	1505
22	Andrew Wuley	1506
23	Robert Gerves	1507
24	John Burdy	1508

This Prince died April 22.

HENRY VIII.

1	John Grendell	1509
2	Thomas Wych	1510
3	The ſame	1511
4	John Davy	1512
5	Richard Bewſhere	1513
6	Robert Soame	1514
7	John Grendell, ſen.	1515
8	Robert Amflet, ſen.	1516
9	Thomas Leighton	1517
10	William Gerves, alias Caſtle	1518
11	Robert Gerves	1519
12	Thomas Miller or Milner	1520
13	The ſame	1521
14	The ſame	1522
15	The ſame	1523
16	John Grendell	1524
17	Thomas Leighton	1525
18	Chriſtopher Brokebank	1526

19 Robert

A. R.			*A. D.*
19	Robert Soame	——	1527
20	John Water	——	1528
21	Thomas Miller	——	1529
22	Richard Bewſhere	——	1530
23	John Power	——	1531
24	Robert Amfles	——	1532
25	—— Parmytour	——	1533
26	—— Seagrave	——	1534
27	Thomas Water	——	1535
28	—— Leighton	——	1536
29	William Hall	——	1537
30	Richard Bewſhere	——	1538
31	William Hall	——	1539
32	Edward Baker, *ob.*	Edward Newton	1540
33	Henry Duplack	——	1541
34	William Kenette	——	1542
35	Richard Hunſtan	——	1543
36	Robert Soame	——	1544
37	Jeffrey Stele, *alias* Style	—	1545
38	Thomas Miller	——	1546

This Prince died January 28.

EDWARD VI.

1	William Overend	——	1547
2	John Macanter	——	1548
3	Ralph Downes	——	1549
4	Edward Baker	——	1550
5	Thomas Waters	——	1551
6	Greg. Revely	——	1552

This Prince died July 6.

Queen MARY.

1	Robert Palmer	——	1553
2	Henry Duplack	——	1554
3	Robert Mowthe	——	1555
4	Ralph Downes	——	1556

A. R.			*A. D.*
5	Henry Bleiſby, *ob.* or Overton	William Overend, *ob.* ———	1557
6	William Overton, *ob.*	Thomas Waters	1558

This princeſs died November 17.

Queen ELIZABETH.

1	Robert Gervis, *ob.*	Chriſtopher Graunt	1559
2	John Pell	———	1560
3	—— Macanter	———	1561
4	—— Kynne	———	1562
5	—— Grebby	———	1563
6	Robert Hulyer	———	1564
7	Richard Spence	———	1565
8	Robert Gervis	———	1566
9	Thomas Grave	———	1567
10	Greg. Baker	———	1568
11	Francis Shaxton	———	1569
12	Edward Waters	———	1570
13	Robert Hulyer	———	1571
14	John Kynne, *ob.*	John Grebby	1572
15	Thomas Clayborne	———	1573
16	——— Grave	———	1574
17	Chriſtopher Graunt	———	1575
18	Gregory Baker	———	1576
19	John Ditchfield	———	1577
20	Robert Hulyer	———	1578
21	Thomas Overend	———	1579
22	Francis Shaxton	———	1580
23	William Killinguee	———	1581
24	John Grebby	———	1582
25	Richard Clarke	———	1583
26	Thomas Grave	———	1584
27	Robert Hulyer	———	1585
28	Thomas Boſton	———	1586
29	—— Sendyll	———	1587
30	John Nelſon	———	1588

A. R.		*A. D.*
31	Seth Hawley	1589
32	Henry Vilett	1590
33	Peter Cartwright	1591
34	Thomas Clayborne	1592
35	William Gurlyn	1593
36	Thomas Boſton	1594
37	William Hoo	1595
38	John Baſſet	1596
39	Seth Hawley	1597
40	Thomas Baker	1598
41	Henry Vilett	1599
42	William Gurlyn	1600
43	Thomas Sandill	1601
44	Thomas Gibſon	1602

This Princeſs died March 24.

JAMES I.

1	John Spence	1603
2	—— Kercher	1604
3	Matthew Clarke	1605
4	John Clarke	1606
5	—— Atkin	1607
6	Thomas Sandyll	1608
7	John Wallys	1609
8	—— Baſſet	1610
9	Thomas Soame	1611
10	——— Gibſon	1612
11	Matthew Clarke	1613
12	John Spencer	1614
13	—— Atkin	1615
14	—— Wallis	1616
15	Richard Stonham	1617
16	William Doughty	1618
17	——— Atkin	1619
18	Thomas Soame	1620
19	Thomas Gurlyn	1621

A. R.		*A. D.*
20	Thomas Snelling, *ob.* John Wallis	1622
21	Edward Hargrave ——	1623
22	Gregory Gurnall ——	1624

This Prince died March 27.

CHARLES I.

1	William Doughty ——	1625
2	Thomas Grinnell ——	1626
3	Joſhua Greene —— ——	1627
4	Thomas Mylner ——	1628
5	——— Soame ——	1629
6	John Perceval —— ——	1630
7	—— Wallis —— ——	1631
8	Bartholomew Wormell ——	1632
9	William Doughty ——	1633
10	Thomas Gurlyn ——	1634
11	John May —— ——	1635
12	Thomas Grinnell ——	1636
13	Joſhua Greene ——	1637
14	Thomas Mylner, *ob.* John Perceval	1638
15	Thomas Toll —— ——	1639
16	William Doughty ——	1640
17	Thomas Nelſon ——	1641
18	Thomas Gurlyn ——	1642
19	Edmund Hudſon — —	1643
20	John May —— ——	1644
21	Edward Robinſon ——	1645
22	Thomas Toll —— —	1646
23	Elias Porter —— ——	1647
24	Thomas Slany, *ob.* Nathaniel Maxey	1648

Decollatur January 30.

CHARLES II.

1	Thomas Revet ——	1649
2	Bartholomew Wormell —	1650
3	Jonas Scott — — —	1651

4 Joſhua

A. R.		*A. D.*
4	Joſhua Greene	1652
5	John Baſſett	1653
6	Thomas Greene	1654
7	——— Toll	1655
8	Robert Thorrowgood	1656
9	Benjamin Holly	1657
10	Henry Bell	1658
11	Joſhua Green	1659
12	John Baſſet	1660
13	Walter Kirby	1661
14	John Bird	1662
15	William Wharton	1663
16	Thomas Greene	1664
17	Benjamin Holly	1665
18	Matthias Twells	1666
19	Thomas Robinſon	1667
20	Walter Kirby	1668
21	Edmund Abbot	1669
22	Henry Bell	1670
23	Daniel Goodwin	1671
24	Seth Hawley	1672
25	John Hamond	1673
26	Thomas Greene, *ob.* Simon Taylor	1674
27	Edward Bromly	1675
28	Thomas Thetford	1676
29	Arthur Eveling	1677
30	John Turner	1678
31	Gyles Bridgman	1679
32	Edmund Taſſell	1680
33	Simon Taylor	1681
34	Henry Chennery	1682
35	Benjamin Keene	1683
36	Edmund Hooke	1684
37	Edward Bodham	1685

This Prince died February 6.

JAMES II.

A. R.		*A. D.*
1	John Kidd —— ——	1686
2	Robert Sparrow, *expelled per mandate.* John Davy —— ——	1687
3	Cyprian Anderſon ——	1688
4	Robert Payne ——	1689

This Prince abdicated.

WILLIAM III.

1	Henry Framingham ——	1690
2	William Linſtead, *ob.* Sir John Turner	1691
3	Henry Bell —— —	1692
4	William Holly ——	1693
5	Charles Turner ——	1694
6	Edmund Hooke ——	1695
7	Robert Sparrow ——	1696
8	John Kidd —— —	1697
9	Cyprian Anderſon ——	1698
10	Robert Awborn ——	1699
11	Henry Framingham ——	1700

This Prince died March 1.

Queen ANNE.

1	Benjamin Keen ——	1701
2	John Turner ——	1702
3	Henry Bell ——	1703
4	John Turner ——	1704
5	Charles Whaits ——	1705
6	John Turner ——	1706
7	William Holly, *ob.* Robert Awborn	1707
8	Henry Chennery ——	1708
9	John Greene ——	1709
10	—— Berney ——	1710
11	—— Bagge ——	1711
12	Charles Greene ——	1712
13	Edmund Rolfe ——	1713

This Princeſs died Auguſt 1.

GEORGE I.

A. R.		*A. D.*
1	Charles Keen	1714
2	John Turner	1715
3	Samuel Browne	1716
4	James Boardman	1717
5	Daniel Scarlet	1718
6	Thomas Robotom	1719
7	Edmund Rolfe	1720
8	John Goodwin	1721
9	Richard Harwick	1722
10	William Allen	1723
11	John Turner, jun.	1724
12	—— Weblin	1725
13	—— Kidd	1726

This Prince died June 11.

GEORGE II.

1	Thomas Allen	1727
2	John Goodwyn	1728
3	Andrew Taylor	1729
4	Charles Harwick	1730
5	John Bagge	1731
6	John Farthing	1732
7	Samuel Browne	1733
8	John Turner, ſen.	1734
9	William Exton	1735
10	John Goodwyn, jun.	1736
11	John Turner, jun.	1737
12	John Goodwyn, ſen.	1738
13	William Bagge	1739
14	John Cary	1740
15	Samuel Browne, *ob.* Benjamin Nuthall	1741
16	Edward Everard	1742
17	Thomas Sommerſby	1743
18	Walter Kirby	1744
19	Philip Caſe	1745

A. R.		*A. D.*
20	Andrew Pigge	1746
21	Walter Robertſon	1747
22	Sir John Turner	1748
23	John Goodwyn	1749
24	William Exton	1750
25	William Bagge	1751
26	William Mixſon	1752
27	John Wilſon	1753
28	John Cary	1754
29	William Langley	1755
30	George Patteſon	1756
31	Benjamin Nuthall	1757
32	Edward Everard	1758
33	Charles Turner	1759
34	Thomas Sommerſby	1760

This Prince died October 25.

GEORGE III.

1	Walter Robertſon	1761
2	Thomas Alderſon	1762
3	James Robertſon	1763
4	Philip Caſe	1764
5	John Cary	1765
6	William Langley	1766
7	Charles Turner	1767
8	Sir John Turner	1768
9	Samuel Browne	1769
10	George Hogg	1770
11	Maxey Allen	1771
12	Edward Everard	1772
13	Thomas Sommerſby, jun.	1773
14	John Cary, jun.	1774
15	William Bagge	1775
16	Thomas Alderſon	1776
17	Philip Caſe	1777
18	Thomas Bagge	1778

Lynn was always a town of great commerce, as it is at this day: the harbour is capable of containing two hundred ſhips. It has been alſo a place of great ſtrength, and is capable of being made ſo now. It is fortified by a deep ditch, and walls for the greateſt part of it, and there are remains of entrenchments all around it. Preparatory to the reſtoration of king Charles II. it was fortified afreſh by ſir Horatio Townſhend, anceſtor to the preſent lord viſcount Townſhend, of Rainham, who was created a baron by king Charles II. for his loyal ſervices, by the ſtile and title of baron of King's Lynn, to which the motto born in their arms by this noble family alludes:

"*Hæc Generi Incrementa Fides.*"

In the grand rebellion againſt Charles I. in the year 1643, the mayor and burgeſſes defended the town againſt the earl of Mancheſter for ſome time, and held it for the king againſt an army of eighteen thouſand men, and ſuſtained a ſeige of three weeks with great bravery; but not being ſupported by the earl of Newcaſtle, who lay near Lincoln with an equal number of troops, and having applied to him in vain for relief, they were obliged to ſurrender and make the beſt terms they could. It does not appear that the garriſon, which conſiſted of the burgeſſes and inhabitants, reinforced by the country gentlemen in the neighbourhood, with eight troops of horſe and eight companies of foot, could amount to more than five thouſand men in arms.

ST. MARGARET's CHURCH and PRIORY.

This church and priory were founded by Herbert biſhop of Norwich, in the reign of king William II. and dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, St. Margaret, and all the maiden ſaints. In the regiſter of Hoxne priory, in Suffolk, it appears by the deed and grant of this biſhop, that the ſaid church and priory were built by him at the requeſt of the men of the town of Lynn, and to perform this the better, he granted an indulgence of forty days pardon to all who ſhould contribute to it; appointed that all tithes and eccleſiaſtical dues of the whole village, ſhould be paid to this church, which he appropriated to the priory, and had it confirmed by the pope.

This priory was ſubordinate to the priory of the Holy Trinity at Norwich, founded alſo by Herbert, and was a cell to it.

This being made a cell to the priory of Norwich, that houſe appointed a monk of their body to be prior here at Lynn, who appears to be reſponſible to the priory of Norwich for the rents and profits he received, and ſeems to be removable at pleaſure.

John de Grey, biſhop of Norwich, confirmed to the monks of Norwich, the church of St. Margaret, with the chapel of St. James and St. Nicholas, and the church at Mintling, and his tithes of Gaywood, &c.

The priory of St. Margaret's was on the ſouth ſide of St. Margaret's church. After the diſſolution of it, it was partly pulled down, to enlarge the church-yard: part of it is ſtill ſtanding, and the lane adjoining retains the name of the Priory Lane.

John

John de Grey, biſhop of Norwich, by deed dated on the ſame day and year with the exchange of lands between him and the prior and convent of Norwich, appropriated the church of St. Margaret to the convent of Norwich, viz.

OMNIB; ſanctæ eccleſiæ matris filijs, Johannis Dej gratia Norwicenſis epiſcopus, ſalutem: Noverit univerſitas veſtra nos divinæ pietatis intuitu conceſſiſſe, et p'ſenti charta confirmaſſe dilectis filiis noſtris Manachis Norwic. eccleſiam Stæ. Margaretæ de Lenn, cum omnib; ſpiritualib; ad eam pertinentib; tam in decimis, quam in oblationib; et alijs omnib; obventionib; ſpiritualib; cum capellis ſuis, ſcil. St. Jacobi et St. Nicolaj, in proprios uſus in perpetuum poſſidendam, &c. Et eccleſiam de Mintling, cum omnib; ad eam pertinentib; et omnes decimas de dominio noſtro de Gaywood, præter illas quæ ad eccleſiam Stæ Fidis de Gaywood pertinent, ita ut faciant in prædictis eccleſijs et capellis miniſtrari competenter p. capellanos ſuos, p. rationabili voluntate ſua amovendos et admittendos, et ita qd. nulli, niſi ſoli epiſcopo in curia ſua propria ſi voluerit and uſus ſuos (ſicuti in alijs manerijs ſuis habet) liceat infra parochias p'dictar. eccleſiarum de Lenn et Mintling, capellam aliquam præter authoritatem epiſcopalem, & conſenſum prioris et conventus monachor. et ſi quæ conſtructa fuerit in proprios uſus cedat monachorum.

The church of St. Margaret was built, probably, on the ſcite of ſome old church there, but whether that old church was alſo dedicated to St. Margaret is not certain.

An order from the mayor, &c. anno 36th of Henry VI. to build the bell tower of St. Margaret's church.

The impropriation of this church being purchaſed by the corporation of Lynn, from the biſhoprick of Norwich, at the general diſſolution of the monaſteries, there is now no revenue belonging to it, ſave only ſome few annuities, which are applied to the repairs thereof, and are as follows:

	£.	s.	d.
An annuity granted to this church by the corporation - - -	3	6	8
Another granted out of Paradice Garden	6	0	0
Another granted out of certain houſes at the north end of Codlin Lane, -	0	6	8
Another granted out of certain tenements near Littleport Bridge, (now demoliſhed) the gift of Mr. Kennet, to the church - - - - -	0	5	0

Notwithſtanding this the dean and chapter of Norwich ſtill retain their ancient right, and privileges as formerly, of preſenting a curate or miniſter to this church, who as ſuch, is obliged to perform, or cauſe to be performed, all divine offices, both here and at the chapel, for which ſervices he is entitled to receive the ſurplice fees for chriſtenings, marriages, burials, &c. as alſo all other perquiſites thereunto belonging, as herbage, doleſiſh, &c.

But the preachers (who are ſtiled and accounted lecturers) are choſen and appointed by the corporation, who generouſly allow to each a certain ſalary of 100l. per ann. which is paid them by the chamberlain for the time being, without any trouble or incumberance whatſoever: and note, they have this further advantage in it, which makes it the more valuable, that this preferment does no ways diſqualify or incapacitate them from holding other livings, with the cure of ſouls.

The

The preſent lecturers are the Rev. Charles Bagge, D. D. and the Rev. Briggs Cary, who alternately preach every Sunday at St. Margaret's and the chapel of St. Nicholas.

St. Margaret's church before the year 1741, was one of the largeſt parochial churches in England, having a nave and three very ſpacious iſles; with a lanthorn over the croſs iſle: there were two towers, one of which was ornamented with a loftv ſpire, the other contained a ring of eight bells. This laſt tower is ſtill remaining, but the ſpire was blown down in a violent gale of wind in September 1741, and falling upon the body of the church deſtroyed the middle iſle, leaving the chancel only ſtanding. This ſpire was two hundred and fifty-eight feet high, and the breadth of the old church was one hundred and thirty-two feet. The church is rebuilt, but the new church is contracted: there are ſtill three iſles, and a handſome gallery over the north iſle. A new organ has been erected at the weſt end, with many harmonious ſtops in it, one in particular a *vox humana*.

Having ſaid thus much with reſpect to this great parochial church in particular, we come now to thoſe monumental inſcriptions and funeral epitaphs which were extant in and about the quire, ſide iſles, and chapels, anno 1725. Notwithſtanding, we cannot but regret the loſs of ſo many beautiful, rich, and coſtly pourtraitures in braſs fixed here upon the graves and tombſtones of our anceſtors, in order to perpetuate their memories to poſterity, which have been ſo impiouſly and ſacrilegiouſly torn away and defaced, of which ſome few now only remain, not unworthy the obſervation of the curious, for exquiſite and rare workmanſhip of fine engraven figures,

and

and other decorations delineated thereupon, and thoſe only but five in number.

And we cannot omit taking notice of one remarkable article which we meet with in the church-wardens account for the year 1645, where it is thus inſerted, viz. "Item, to William King for defacing "ſuperſtitious epitaphs, 5s." Too great a reward for ſo bad a ſervice.

The CHARNELL HALL.

On the north ſide of the church-yard ſtands an ancient pile, a chapel, adjoining to the weſt end of the north iſle of the old church of St. Margaret; the upper part of this pile was a chapel, and the lower part a charnel houſe, where the bones taken out, on the digging of the many graves were depoſited. Every abbey and priory ſeems to have had one belonging to them, and a chapel over it as at Norwich, &c. The upper part, or chapel, was turned at the diſſolution into a free ſchool, and ſo continues.

On an inquiſition taken, in the 3d of Elizabeth, by certain commiſſioners, the jury preſent, that there was a charnel houſe in St. Margaret's church-yard, which is now a ſchool-houſe; the founders thereof were Thomas Thurſbye, Walter Coney, and —— Locke, merchants of the ſaid town, but to what uſe it was founded they knew not; to which there belonged one bell, taken down by the mayor ſince the death of Henry VIII. in what year they knew not; and that there did belong to the charnel houſe, certain lands and tenements, lying and being in King's Lynn, Wiggenhall St. Mary, and Gaywood, in the tenure of divers men, whoſe names they knew not, to the value of 10l. per ann.

This

This jury may with great propriety be ſaid to have found an *ignoramus*.

TRINITY CHAPEL, in St. Margaret's Church.

On the north ſide of the chancel of St. Margaret's church is the chapel of the Holy Trinity, belonging to the guild or fraternity of the Holy Trinity.

In the 26th of Henry VI. this guild had a patent for a meſſuage and ſeven acres of meadow in South Lynn.

St. NICHOLAS's CHAPEL.

This chapel of St. Nicholas is ſuppoſed to have been founded by Turbus, or de Turbe, biſhop of Norwich, in the reign of king Stephen, who, after it was built and conſecrated, gave it to the monks of the priory of Norwich cathedral, with all its profits.

The chapel of St. Nicholas is one of the largeſt chapels in England, as large as moſt parochial churches: it has three iſles, from eaſt to weſt is two hundred feet long, and in breadth ſeventy-eight. It has a tower with a ring of eight bells, and, like St. Margaret's, was ornamented with a lofty ſpire, which ſhared the ſame fate with the ſpire of St. Margaret's, and on the very ſame day, in September 1741, but being lighter, or falling in a different direction, did not equally damage the body of the chapel.

St. NICHOLAS's CHAPEL and St. GEORGE's GUILD.

In the mayoralty of Jeffrey Talb, 1374, the pope's bull was granted to build this chapel.

In

In this chapel was the guild of St. George. To this guild the jurors report, in the 3d of Elizabeth, that there appertaineth a hall, called St. George's Hall, with houſe and buildings thereunto annexed, with certain tenements, cellars, curtilages, and gardens to the ſame belonging, lying and being in King's Lynn aforeſaid, in the tenure of the mayor and brethren of the ſaid town, to the yearly value of 40s.

Item. There did belong to the ſaid guild ſixteen acres of paſture in Wiggenhall St. Peter's, late in the tenure of William Pers, to the yearly value of 40s.

Item. More in Wiggenhall St. Mary's, twelve acres and an half of paſture, in the tenure of Thomas Fenne, to the value of 30s. by the year.

Item. There belongs to this chapel a great bell, containing by eſtimation twenty hundred weight.

Item. There doth belong to the ſaid chapel certain houſes, lands, tenements, and paſtures, lying and being in the ſaid town of King's Lynn and Gaywood, to the yearly rent of 6l. 6s. 8d. in whoſe tenure we know not, nor to what uſe they were given.

That this chapel was an ancient one, appears by king John's appropriating St. Margaret's church, with this chapel, to the monks of the cathedral of Norwich. An ancient deed was executed in it, of which the following is an authentic copy.

Ego Lemarus de Walpole, et Beatrix uxor mea, dedimus et conceſſimus priori de Lewis et conventui ſuo, &c. et ad hanc venditionem; firmiter et inconcuſſe tenendum

et

et contra natos et non natos warrantizandum, primo in eccleſiæ St. Nicholai de Lenna in manu Herberti de Helingeat affidamus, et poſtea in camiterio St. Jacobi de Acre, ſuſp. quatuor. Evangelia juravimus.

John Alcock, biſhop of Ely, June 3, 1490, granted forty days pardon, or indulgence, to all the brethren and ſiſters of the guild of St. Etheldreda, in St. Nicholas's chapel of Lynn, at the altar of St. Etheldreda the moſt holy virgin, there founded, and to all who ſhould hear maſs at the ſaid altar, and to all who ſaid *quinquies* before the ſaid altar, the Lord's Prayer, and the Salutation *quinquies*.

Henry IV. by his letters patent, gave and granted licence to John Brandon, Bartholomew Siſtern, and John Snailwell, of Lenne Epiſcopi, that they might make, found, and eſtabliſh to the honour of God, and the glorious martyr St. George, a certain fraternity, brotherhood, and perpetual guild of themſelves and others, who out of their devotion were willing to be of the ſaid fraternity and guild: and that brothers and ſiſters of the fraternity and guild, for the time being, might chooſe, make and ordain, one alderman and four cuſtodes of the ſaid fraternity and guild, yearly, for the good and profit of the ſame, and out of the brethren of the ſaid fraternity and guild; and that the ſaid alderman and cuſtodes, and their ſucceſſors, by the names of the alderman and cuſtodes of the ſaid guild, ſhould have power, and be able to take, receive, and hold any lands, tenements, rents, and poſſeſſions whatſoever, or ſhould be by any ways or means granteed to them, and to do in all other reſpects, &c. and to act as the reſt of his liege ſubjects, or perſons do, and have power, and are enabled to act.

Many

Many other grants of lands and tenements were given by Henry V. and king Edward VI. when he granted, the 21ſt of May, in his 2d year, and Thomas Leyton, alderman, to the mayor and burgeſſes the lands, tenements, &c. belonging to the guild of the Holy Trinity, granted alſo to the mayor, &c. one capital meſſuage or hall, called St. George's Hall, with the houſes, &c. thereunto annexed.

This St. George's Hall was a long time uſed as a court to hold the quarter ſeſſions in for the peace of the county of Norfolk, but of late years it has been converted into a theatre, and is lett to a company of comedians who perform in it annually at the time of the mart, which is proclaimed Feb. 14, and by the charter of king Henry VIII. who granted it, is to continue for ſix days after. The comedians however, are uſually permitted to make a longer ſtay in the town. The booths of the London tradeſmen, erected in the market-place annually during the mart, are not allowed to remain ſtanding above fourteen days, as being thought to injure the trade of the inhabitants.

This mart is annually proclaimed on Feb. 14, in great form, the mayor and corporation attending, when the town-clerk reads the charter, and the booths are immediately opened. The mayor afterwards gives an entertainment at the town-hall. King Hen. VIII. granted to the corporation another annual fair on July 16, which was afterwards revoked.

St. FABIAN's and SEBASTIAN's GUILD.

This little ſociety had an alderman to preſide over it, and met uſually once or twice a year to dine and ſup together; but little of their cuſtoms is known with

with certainty at this day, or what their benefactions and contributions were.

Concerning the Antiquity of St. NICHOLAS's CHAPEL.

We can neither ſpeak poſitively as to the founder of this chapel, nor the preciſe time of its foundation and building, as is much to be wiſhed; but thus far we may reaſonably conclude, that without all doubt it muſt be above four hundred years ſtanding, if the following evidences may be allowed of.

Firſt, it is very remarkable that upon the front, on the top of the porch, which is the only one, but that very neat, adjoining to this ſacred ſtructure, are placed the figures of a lion and an eagle, cut in ſtone, and fixed on pedeſtals, the two ſupporters of the arms of king Edward III. which, if we may be permitted to conjecture, gives ſome reaſon to believe that this chapel was firſt founded before, or at leaſt finiſhed in ſome part of that king's reign, which began in 1326, and continued above fifty years.

Secondly, again we find here the ſepulture and interment of William de Bittering, (who was divers times mayor of this corporation in that king's reign) together with his wife Julian, to be both in this chapel, in the ſouth iſle towards the eaſt, under a very large fair ſtone, ten feet long and ſix broad, all covered over with braſs, having their effigies cut in the middle upon the ſame, neatly engraven and embelliſhed with fine decorations round the verge, which is ſtill to be ſeen almoſt entire, and whoſe mark or ſymbol (which we find in divers places on the plate of his tombſtone) is alſo ſtill remaining, fairly depicted or ſtained, in a ſouth window near his grave.

Thirdly,

Thirdly, Moreover 'tis recorded that in the year 1379, pope Urban VI. ſent his bull hither (which was received with great veneration) to authoriſe and allow the baptiſing of infants and other adult perſons in this chapel, which before were always initiated in the pariſh church of St. Margaret: that part of the old font called the baſon, then made uſe of in this holy place, (before the erecting that now ſtanding, granted and conſecrated by S. Harſnell, D. D. and biſhop of Norwich, in the year 1627, and which reſembles that at St. Margaret's) we are inclined to believe is the ſame which we obſerved to lie upon the ground (with the pedeſtal at ſome diſtance from it) among the rubbiſh and lumber, in a certain place on the north ſide of the quire, perhaps formerly ſome oratory, chapel, or chauntry.

It is of free-ſtone, one hundred and ſixty-four inches in diameter, upon the ſuperfices within the verge, and nine inches deep perpendicular from the bottom, carved on the outſide.

Laſtly, the fourth and laſt evidence which offers itſelf to our obſervation, concerning the antiquity of this elegant chapel, though of much later date, is that ſome time ſince, in a window next to the north door, we found there the year of our Lord, fairly depicted or ſtained in the glaſs, in very beautiful and yellow characters, but it is now demoliſhed and gone, notwithſtanding having taken care to preſerve a tranſcript of it, we have endeavoured to imitate it as near as we could, and given you as follows:

Anno Dom. m. cccc. xm.

St.

St. JAMES's CHAPEL.

In the certificate and preſentment of William Butts, Chriſtopher Walpole, gent. &c. taken the 29th of September, in the 3d year of queen Elizabeth, before ſir Nicholas L'Eſtrange, knt. Thomas Guybon, Henry Mynn, and Henry Spelman, eſq. commiſſioners to the queen, the jurors find that there was a chapel dedicated to St. James, then defaced by the mayor and his brethren, ſaving one croſs iſle, which was then re-edifying and repairing by the mayor of the ſaid town; which chapel contained in length five ſcore feet, and in breadth twenty-four feet; the cemitary or church-yard of the ſaid chapel containeth three acres, and is uſed to bury the dead: it was a chapel of eaſe, and the founder thereof was biſhop of Norwich, whoſe name we know not; there did belong to it four bells, taken down by the mayor of the town ſince the death of Henry VIII. but in what year we know not, which were worth by eſtimation, with the bell of the chancel houſe, ccl.

This chapel of St. James being in part demoliſhed, the ſpire and part of the ſtone tower taken off, and the reſt becoming ruinous, in the 22d of queen Elizabeth the body of it was quite pulled down, and the croſs iſle and chancel were fitted up for a workhouſe for the poor, for dreſſing hemp, and making ſtrings and towes for fiſhermen, and other manufactures. The building lay afterwards a long time neglected, but by the liberal benefactions of the mayor, burgeſſes, and principal inhabitants, was rebuilt, and again converted into a workhouſe or hoſpital, as it continues at this day, under the direction of the corporation, and one of the aldermen is always guardian or governor, as ſettled by the act of

the 12th of William III. Upon a frontiſpiece is this inſcription:

Ruinis
Capellæ St. Jacobi
Orphano trophium Hoc
Erexit
S. P. Q. L.
Simone Tayler Majore.

It is now commonly called the Spinning Houſe.

The arms of queen Elizabeth, a lion and dragon, ſupporters, now over the town hall, were taken from this chapel.

In this town there were formerly many priories, oratories, and religious houſes for Friars, Carmelites, or White Friars, in South Lynn, the church of which ſtill remains, and is uſed as a pariſh church: Black Friars, Dominicans, Auguſtin Friars, Grey Friars, all which came hither about the reign of king Henry III. and ſettled here, building themſelves convents in ſeveral parts of the town; but they are now almoſt all demoliſhed, excepting a loſty hexangular tower of the Grey Friars, oppoſite the free grammar ſchool-houſe in Mixſon's ſtreet, ſo called from many new buildings erected by the late William Mixſon, eſq. mayor of Lynn, a magiſtrate of an open and enlarged mind, and a merchant of extenſive knowledge in trade. This tower of the Grey Friars is at this day an uſeful ſea-mark for guiding ſhips into the harbour.

Near the walls of this town are the remains of an ancient oratory, with ſeveral vaults and cavities under ground, commonly called the Lady's Mount, as

as being dedicated to the Virgin Mary; or the Red Mount, where the pilgrims to the holy wells and monaſtery of our Lady, of Walſingham, uſed to pay their devotions.

The names of theſe religious houſes, for moſt of them are deſtroyed or defaced, are as follows:

Our LADY's CHAPEL on the Bridge,

St. CATHERINE's CHAPEL,

Our LADY on the Mount,

St. ANN's CHAPEL,

(Near which is a fort ſtill remaining, mounted till lately with cannon, to command the entrance of the harbour.)

HERMITAGE or LYNN CROUC.

CORPUS CHRISTI GUILD.

St. JOHN's CHAPEL.

TRINITY GUILD, or the MERCHANT's GUILD.

It was called the Great Guild of the Holy Trinity in Lynn, in reſpect to other leſs guilds in the ſaid town. The head or chief perſon of this guild was ſtiled the alderman or cuſtos, and was choſe by the commonalty of the ſaid town, and continued ſo on that choice for life, unleſs upon account of ſome very great infirmity or inability, or ſome other reaſonable cauſe he was ſet aſide and removed.

This guild had many grants and poſſeſſions, amongſt the reſt the common ſtaith; and the mayor and aldermen for the time being had the govern-

ment of this community, as expreſſed by the letters patent of Henry III.

Sr. MARY MAGDALEN's HOSPITAL, on the cauſeway between Gaywood and Lynn.

This ancient hoſpital was founded by one Petrus Capellanus, in the reign of king Stephen, in honour of St. Mary Magdalen, and conſiſted of a prior, twelve brethren and ſiſters, in all thirteen; of whom ten (the prior being one) were ſound, and three unſound, or leprous; ſome eccleſiaſtical and ſome ſecular, bound to perform ſuperſtitious rites, and prayers for the ſouls of men departed this life, viz. for the ſoul of Petrus Capellanus their founder, the ſouls of popes, biſhops, abbots, priors, kings, queens, and others their benefactors, as appear by their antient books of *Obits* and *Oriſons*, and by the antient inſtrument of articles which the brethren and ſiſters were bound to obſerve. And all or moſt of the lands given to the ſaid hoſpital, were for the maintaining of prayers for the dead, as appears by divers deeds and charters, without date, of the firſt donations of the ſaid lands.

Petrus Capellanus, their founder, died upon St. Paul's day, being the 25th of January, anno 1174, in the 20th of Henry II.

This hoſpital is under the direction of the mayor and corporation, and is kept in good repair by them for the maintenance and ſupport of poor women, elected into it at their diſcretion upon every vacancy that occurs.

LYNN DEANERY,

Was in the patronage of the biſhop of Norwich, who had a houſe at Lynn.

The biſhop's houſe ſtood on the ſea bank, near the chapel of St. Nicholas.

The BISHOP's HIGH STEWARD,

Was an office of the biſhop, granted by patent. In the Saxon age he was called *Capitalis Seneſcallus Epiſcopi*, and as ſuch received all the revenues of the biſhop, held all the courts belonging to his lordſhips, and paſſed the accounts of the inferior officers, as bailiffs, &c. He often ſat in court with the mayor, on trials, and grants of places, and officers in the town, &c. who was often ſworn by him, &c. and it was held by the biſhop till Henry VIII.'s charter to the town, when it was granted to the corporation. The like office at Yarmouth and Norwich; and other corporations have the ſaid office.

The right honourable the earl of Orford, lord lieutenant of this county, is the preſent high ſteward of Lynn Regis, 1778.

LYNN CHARTERS.

I. The firſt charter of liberties granted to the town was by king John, at Lutgerſhall, 14 September, *anno reg. ſui* 6, 1204.

II. The ſecond was that of king Henry III. his ſon, dated at Weſtminſter the 6th of February, *anno reg ſui* 17, which fully confirms what his father had granted: this was 1233.

III. The third was that of the aforeſaid king Henry III. dated at Weſtminſter the 26th of March, *anno reg. ſui* 52, wherein he not only confirms all former grants, but further, for the laudable and faithful ſervice and valiant aſſiſtance, (as the words are) which the burgeſſes of Lynn had done for him in his troubles and civil wars, granted them by this charter, to chooſe themſelves a mayor, inſtead of their *prepoſitus*, which was anno Dom. 1268.

This charter was firſt founded upon biſhop John de Grey, and the dean and chapter's charter of Norwich, for a mayor, and was confirmed by king Henry III. aforeſaid.

The firſt mayor, by this charter, was elected into that office on St. Michael's day, anno Dom. 1268.

Having done with the religious houſes and eccleſiaſtical Hiſtory, we come now to a deſcription of other remarkable buildings in this large and populous town, ſituated on the eaſt ſide of the river Ouſe, and by much the moſt conſiderable of all the towns of the *Iceni*, Norwich alone excepted. It extends about a mile and a quarter from north to ſouth, and is half a mile broad from the eaſt gate to the river, or channel, which is the broadeſt part; contains about three thouſand houſes, and near fifteen thouſand inhabitants.

The river, at ſpring tides, flows more than twenty feet perpendicular, and if at thoſe times there happens to be a north-eaſt wind, it brings the tide up with ſuch rapidity, as to force the ſhips from their moorings, though they lie at ten miles diſtance from the ocean, and has been known to flow a conſiderable way into the Tueſday market-place, which is a

ſpacious

ſpacious ſquare area of three acres, having, on an aſcent of four ſteps, a very handſome market croſs of free-ſtone, of modern architecture, adorned with ſtatues and other embelliſhments, with a periſtyle round below, ſupported by ſixteen pillars of the Ionic order; as alſo another walk above, encompaſſed with an iron palliſade, enriched with curious tracery work and foliage, incloſing a neat octangular room: the upper part is finiſhed with a cupola and turret, wherein hangs the market bell, the whole being about ſeventy feet in height. On each ſide ſtand, in a ſemicircular form, the butchers ſhambles in two diviſions, the frontiſpieces being ſupported with Doric columns, and the pediments enriched with a decoration of paintings appropriated to the ſubject; and behind is another building, erected and fitted for a fiſh-market, which, with ſome handſome houſes incloſing all behind, form the whole into an agreeable and charming proſpect.

St. Margaret was the tutelary ſaint and patroneſs of this town, and accordingly the corporation has for its public and common ſeal the effigies of St. Margaret ſtanding in a triumphal manner, wounding the dragon with a croſs, and trampling upon him with her feet. The motto circumſcribed around the ſeal is,

Sub Margareta teritur Draco, ſtat Cruce læta.

From which the honorary coat of arms of this town is derived, being on a field azure, three dragons heads transfixed, with three croſſes, croſlet fitchee, or.

Here is a theatre very convenient and neat, neither profuſely ornamented, nor diſguſtingly plain; and

although not free from faults, yet has none but what reſulted from the architect being confined to fill up the ſhell of an old building which was raiſed for another purpoſe.

The aſſembly-rooms are capacious, and handſomely fitted up: they conſiſt of three on a line; the firſt an old town-hall, fifty-eight feet by twenty-ſeven, and of a well proportioned loftineſs, would be a very good ball-room, had it a boarded floor, but at preſent forms a very noble anti-room. It opens into the ball-room, ſixty feet by twenty-ſeven, and twenty-two feet high, which would have been a proper one, if the architect had given his muſic gallery a hitch backwards; for at preſent it is a mere ſhelf ſtuck in between the chimnies, an eye-ſore to the room. If he did it through confinement for want of ſpace, he ſhould undoubtedly have formed his muſic-ſeats upon the plan of thoſe at Almack's, at the end of the room; they might have waved in a ſcroll round the door of the card-room, mingled with branches of candles, which might eaſily have been rendered a great ornament.

The card-room is twenty-ſeven feet by twenty-ſeven, and twenty-two feet high.

As the three are upon a line, it would have given them an uncommon elegance, had the openings from one into another been in three arches in the centre ſupported by pillars, inſtead of the preſent glaſs doors, which are mean.

The eye would then have commanded at once a ſuit of one hundred and forty-five feet, which, with handſome luſtres properly diſpoſed, would have rendered theſe rooms inferior to few in England.

In

In the year 1683, ſir John Turner, knight, three times mayor here, and for many years one of their repreſentatives in parliament, erected, at his own expence, a handſome building of free-ſtone, with two orders of columns, intending it for an exchange for merchants.

Upon the ſecond floor, in a nich in the front, is a ſtatue of king Charles II. and within is the cuſtom-houſe, fitted up with ſeveral commodious apartments for that purpoſe: on the platform above is raiſed an open turret, upon pillars of the Corinthian order, with an exchange bell therein, being finiſhed with an obeliſk and ball, whereon ſtands Fame, inſtead of a weather-cock, the whole being ninety feet high.

The ſituation of this town, near the fall of the Ouſe into the ſea, gives it an opportunity of extending its trade into eight different counties, ſo that it ſupplies many conſiderable cities and towns with its heavy goods, not only of our own produce, but imported from abroad.

It deals more largely in coals and wine than any other town in England, except London, Briſtol, and Newcaſtle. In return for theſe articles of merchandiſe imported, it receives back for exportation all the corn produced in the ſeveral counties which it ſupplies; and of this one article, Lynn exports more than any one port in the kingdom, except Hull in Yorkſhire.

Its foreign trade is very conſiderable, eſpecially to Holland, Norway, the Baltic, Spain and Portugal.

MASSINGHAM,

MASSINGHAM MAGNA, or DERTFORD's. At the ſurvey no diſtinction is made of the townſhips of Great and Little Maſſingham, ſo that it ſeems to be undivided at that time, and occurs under the name of Maſincham and Marſincham, being ſeated on a wet or marſhy meadow or common. The principal manor was then in king William the Conqueror.

This extenſive pariſh, containing near four thouſand acres of land, remained in the crown till king Henry I. granted it away.

Beſides this lordſhip, the Conqueror had in the hundred of Docking, Southmere, Titchwell and Stanhoe;—in Weyland hundred, Saham, Griſton, Caſton and Breccles;—in Forehoe hundred, Hingham;—in Mitford hundred, Flockthorpe;——in Gallow hundred, Fakenham, Althorpe, Thorpland, Creak, Stibbard and Kettleſtone;—in Brothercroſs hundred, Dunton and Norton;—in Holt hundred, Holt, Cley, Sniterley, Hempſtead, Bathley, Burſton, Hunworth, Stody, Bayfield, Glanford, Gunthorpe, Scarnton and Morſton;—in North Greenhoe, Wighton, Houghton, Holkham, Quarles, Egmere, Wells, Warham, Stifkey, Hindringham, Walſingham and Dalling;—in Walſham hundred, Moulton and Baſtwick;—in Weſt Flegg hundred, Martham and Clippeſby;—in Henſtead hundred, Framlingham;—in Diſs hundred, Watlingſet and Burſton;—in Eynsford hundred, Foulſham, Whitwell and Brandiſton;——in Taverham hundred, Taverham and Felthorpe;—in South Erpingham hundred, Caſton, Oulton, Stratton, Colby and Wickmere;—in Tunſtead hundred Felmingham;——in Eaſt Flegg hundred, Ormeſby and Runham;—in Clavering hundred Rildincham: alſo poſſeſſions and lordſhips in Norwich, Yarmouth and Thetford; there were alſo many other lordſhips which

which Godric, his bailiff, took care of, and alſo William de Noiers for the Conqueror.

John lord Fitz John, in the 3d of Edward I. granted to Roger biſhop of Norwich, and to the church of the Holy Trinity of Norwich, the advowſon of the church of St. Mary of Maſſingham, belonging to this lordſhip. On his death it came to his brother, Richard Fitz John, anno 4° of Edw. I. a baron of the realm, who granted it by his deed, dated at London on the feaſt of St. Peter and St. Paul, in the 6th of the ſaid king, to ſir Thomas de Weyland, the judge. Stowe calls him the king's chief juſtice: he was in the 17th of the ſaid reign, found guilty of notorious bribery and corruption; his whole eſtate and his goods were confiſcated, and he was baniſhed the kingdom.

The aforeſaid hiſtorian relates, "that being convicted, and fearing to yield himſelf to the king's "mercy, he went to the Friars minors, at Badwell "in Suffolk, took on him the habit of a Grey Friar, "but being diſcovered by ſome of his ſervants, he "was watched and guarded, and after two months "ſiege, went out, forſaking his friar's cowl, and "was taken and ſent to the Tower."

In the 8th of Edward III. ſir John de Norwich was lord, and had a grant of a weekly market on Friday, and of a fair for three days yearly, on the vigil, day, and day after St. Simon and Jude, dated June 10, at Newcaſtle upon Tyne. Witneſſes, William archbiſhop of York, Richard biſhop of Durham, treaſurer, John de Eltham, earl of Cornwall, the king's brother, John de Warren, earl of Surry, Henry de Percy, William de Montacute, Ralph de Nevill, ſteward of the houſhold.

At

At the diſſolution it was farmed by Henry Bedingfield, eſq. and on January 21, in the 2d and 3d of Philip and Mary, granted with the advowſon of the church, by the name of Maſſingham Magna, *alias* Dertford, *alias* Lady Manor, to Thomas Greſham, eſq. afterwards a knight, and founder of the Royal Exchange in London, who died lord of it.

On the death of the lady Ann Greſham, his relict, at Oſterley houſe in Middleſex, November 23, in the 39th of Elizabeth, ſhe was found to die ſeiſed of it, held by the twentieth part of a fee; and ſir William Reed was her ſon and heir, aged fifty. She was a daughter of William Fernley, gent. of Weſt Creeting in Suffolk, and had to her firſt huſband William Reed, a merchant of London, of the family of the Reeds of Beccles in Suffolk, and was father of ſir William, who kept a court here as lord July 21, in the 9th of James I.

After the Reeds it was in the family of the Barkhams, of Southacre and Weſtacre, who reſided at High Houſe, now the ſeat of Anthony Hammond, eſq. by purchaſe from the late Edward Spelman, eſq. who built the preſent houſe, and called it after the old name of the family ſeat, High Houſe.

Sir Edward Barkham was lord mayor of London in 1621, and was created a baronet June 28, 1623: his only daughter and heireſs, Helen, married Charles Yallop, eſq. ſon and heir of ſir Robert Yallop: the late Edward Spelman, eſq. was ſon of this Charles Yallop and Helen daughter of ſir Edward Barkham, and took the name of Spelman from Clement Spelman, eſq. one of the barons of the Exchequer, whoſe daughter Dorothy married ſir Robert Yallop. Hence it was that Charles Yallop, eſq. father of the

the late Edward Spelman, became lord of the manor and abbey eſtate, and patron of the church of Great Maſſingham, and in the year 1698 preſented the Rev. Benjamin Squire to the rectory, who dying in 1731, was ſucceeded by Dr. John Gardiner, on the preſentation of ſir Robert Walpole, who had purchaſed the advowſon of the late Edward Spelman.

Sir Thomas Reed married the daughter of Thomas Cecil, earl of Saliſbury, and his youngeſt ſon ſold the Maſſingham eſtate, and that of Weſtacre, to ſir Edward Barkham, bart. and from him this lordſhip, as before obſerved, came to Charles Yallop, eſq. (only ſon of ſir Robert Yallop, knt. of Bowthorpe by Norwich, and Dorothy his wife, daughter of Clement Spelman, eſq. of Gray's Inn, London, a baron of the Exchequer) on his marriage with Helen, only daughter and heir of ſir Edward Barkham, bart. of Weſtacre; whoſe ſon and heir Edward Yallop, alias Spelman, eſq. conveyed it to ſir Robert Walpole, earl of Orford, and in that family it remains, George earl of Orford, lord lieutenant of this county, being the preſent lord.

Monks, or Castleacre Priory Manor. This manor was called after the monks of the abbey of Maſſingham, being ſubordinate, and a cell to that of the cluniac monks at Caſtleacre.

Great part of this manor, with many other lands and revenues, were at different times and in different reigns given by the ſeveral proprietors, as they ſucceeded, to the priory and monks of Caſtleacre; the times of ſuch donations, as well as the names of the donors, are very uncertainly related by hiſtorians, though a chartulary of the priory of Caſtleacre is ſaid

ſaid ſtill to exiſt, and is to be found in the library of the late earl of Orford, probably now in the poſſeſſion of the earl of Hardwicke, at Wimple near Cambridge, but it has no date.

On the diſſolution of the priory of Caſtle-acre, this manor was granted to Thomas duke of Norfolk, to be held of the king *in capite*, December 22, in the 29th year of king Henry VIII. From the duke of Norfolk it came to the Walpoles, and John Walpole, ſerjeant at law, was found to hold it, whoſe ſon and heir, William, had livery of it in the 8th of Elizabeth.

This manor is now in the preſent earl of Orford, the counteſs his lordſhip's mother holding it only in jointure, and being tenant for life.

Massingham Priory Manor. In the town of Great Maſſingham was a cell, or ſmall priory, belonging to Caſtleacre priory, dedicated to the Virgin and St. Nicholas, and often called in old writings the hoſpital of St. Mary; it was founded by Nicholas le Syre, of Maſſingham.

Many grants were made and donations given to this priory of Maſſingham, and many lands purchaſed by the prior and monks, ſo that the priory of the Virgin and St. Nicholas at Maſſingham became in proceſs of time very conſiderable for its poſſeſſions, and notwithſtanding Maſſingham abbey was a cell to Caſtleacre abbey, and the cluniac monks, it was nevertheleſs very powerful and rich in itſelf.

On its diſſolution it was granted, January 21, in the 2d and 3d of Philip and Mary, with the manor and rectory of Langham, and advowſon of the vicarage,

tage, the manor of Morſton, and the advowſon of the rectory, the manor of Walſingham, the manor of Combs, and advowſon of the rectory, and the manor of Narford, to Thomas Greſham, eſq.

On the death of ſir Thomas Greſham, in 1579, it came to his lady Anne, and on her deceaſe to her ſon ſir William Reed, by her firſt huſband, who held it with his lordſhip of Maſſingham Magna, or Dertford's; and ſo to ſir Edward Barkham, the Yallops, the late Edward Spelman, eſq. and is now in the poſſeſſion of the preſent earl of Orford, 1778.

This priory has met with the ſame fate as the priory of Caſtleacre, to which it was ſubordinate, and is now converted to a farm-houſe, nothing remaining but old walls, that appear and mark it to be the ruins of a religious houſe.

This eſtate, with many others in this town, are the property of the earl of Orford, patron of the church.

FELTHAM'S MANOR. This manor, after being in poſſeſſion of the Wodehouſe family and many others, came in the reign of queen Elizabeth to the Walpole family, and William Walpole, eſq. died ſeiſed of it.

Sir Edward Coke was poſſeſſed of it in the reign of king James I. and his deſcendants, the right hon. Thomas Coke, earl of Leiceſter, died lord of it in 1759, and it remains in that family at preſent.

To the poor of the pariſh of Great Maſſingham many charitable bequeſts have been made.

Dr.

Dr. Pierce, formerly maſter of Gonville and Caius college in Cambridge, left one pound ten ſhillings, to be paid yearly at Michaelmas by the maſter and fellows of that college.

Twenty marks, or 14l. was given by a Mr. Wright, formerly an inhabitant of this pariſh, which is put into the hands of one of the principal pariſhioners, and the intereſt paid annually at Chriſtmas and diſtributed to the poor.

A houſe and ſmall piece of land given by Dr. Berridge, and lett at 2l. 10s. a year, the rent to be diſtributed every Chriſtmas.

Seven acres and one rood of land given to the town, for repairing the church clock, and for ringing a bell at four o'clock in the morning and at eight in the evening, from All Saints Day to St. Matthias. This has been neglected many years.

Six white penny loaves are given to the poor every Sunday, according to the will of Charles Calthorpe, eſq. payable out of his eſtate in this town purchaſed by the late earl of Leiceſter; alſo out of the ſame eſtate three ſhillings and four-pence yearly, for the repair of the town well.

The plate in the church is,

One large ſilver flaggon, weighing fifty-ſix ounces and a half.

One ſilver cup with a cover, weighing ſixteen ounces.

One ſilver plate, weighing twelve ounces.

In

In this town is a free ſchool, endowed with 20l. per ann. for a maſter, to be choſen by the rectors of Maſſingham Magna and Parva, and of Harpley, who is to have no preferment in the church.

This free ſchool was founded by Charles Calthorpe, eſq. who tied an eſtate in this pariſh for the annual payment of 20l. for ever, which eſtate was purchaſed by lord Leiceſter, and is now in the Holkham family. Mr. Calthorpe in his will mentions, that he left this 20l. as a beginning only, and to encourage others to encreaſe and enlarge the foundation, of which he expreſſed his hopes; but his hopes and wiſhes have been vain, and he ſtands the firſt and only benefactor to the ſchool. The maſter is bound to teach twenty-five boys, if there are ſo many, of the pariſhes of Great and Little Maſſingham, and Harpley; and in caſe they cannot ſupply the number, then the pariſh of Rougham is entitled to ſend children.

There are above one thouſand acres of common in this pariſh, and formerly the poor kept a herd of ſixty or ſeventy cows upon it, and paid a herdſman for attending them; but this valuable cuſtom has been long laid aſide, and the commons made no other uſe of by the poor but to cut firing, and to turn a horſe upon occaſionally; and the commons are become ſheep-walks, and feed the numerous flocks of the capital farmers.

The church is a regular pile, conſiſting of a nave, a north and ſouth iſle, with a chancel covered with lead; at the weſt end is a four-ſquare tower.

On a grave-ſtone with a braſs plate in the chancel, —*Per varios caſus, hic jacet (et inturbatum jaceat) cor-*

pus Johs. Beregij D. D. qui fuit filius Johs. Beregij S. T. D. hujus eccleſiæ rector, obt. 9 die menſis Novemb. Ao. Dni. 1690.—*Sacrificium Deo;* with theſe arms, argent, a ſaltire ingrailed between four eſcallops, ſable.

The church of Maſſingham All Saints was ſtanding in 1392.

Sir Robert Sygon, of Lynn Biſhop, prieſt, by his will in 1505, "bequeaths his body to be buried in the church of St. Mary of Maſſingham; gives a legacy to St. John Baptiſt's guild there, 7 acres of land to the common profights of the ſaid town, to pay and diſcharge the leyte money of 3s. by yere, and to pay the holy brede loofe, and the money longyng ev'ry Sunday for ever; a cloſe called Ryſing-Yard, with half an acre of land, and 23 acres of land in the fields of Maſſingham, in divers pieces.

"*Item*, to the commonalty of Maſſingham, with the Croft, an acre of land and an half, lying in Len Way, with all the appertenances, and implements thereto belonging, to make their common drinkyngs of the plow day, and odyr times at their pleaſure, ſo that they every yere kepe myne obit, ringing a peale for my ſoule, and ſing a maſs for ever, and do odyr good deeds."

John Berridge, D. D. died rector of this pariſh in 1698, to whom Benjamin Squire (father of the late Charles Squire, rector of Congham and Little Maſſingham; and of the late John Squire, rector of Lavenham in Suffolk, both eminent for their learning) ſucceeded on the preſentation of the Yallop family, of High Houſe, Weſtacre.

In

In 1731, John Gardiner, L. L. D. rector of Bruntiſtead, and miniſter of St. Giles's and St. Gregory's in the city of Norwich, was preſented by ſir Robert Walpole, knight of the garter, firſt lord commiſſioner of the treaſury, and prime miniſter to king George I. and II. univerſally acknowledged the greateſt ſtateſman of the age he lived in. Dr. Gardiner lived the much reſpected rector of this church near forty years, until the 15th of November 1770, when to the unſpeakable grief of his family and friends, he departed this life, *ætat.* 68. He was ſon of John Gardiner, eſq. of Aldburgh in the county of Suffolk, who was captain in lord Cutt's regiment of foot, and died at Minorca in the reign of queen Anne. His remains were interred in the chancel of Great Maſſingham, by the altar, next to the grave of his late affectionate wife, and tender parent to her children, who died October 10, 1759. A grave-ſtone is over both, and a hatchment over the grave-ſtone, with the arms of Gardiner and Turner: ſhe was the daughter of John Turner, eſq. of Saffron Waldon in Eſſex, and was married to the late Dr. Gardiner October 6, 1722. They had many children, of whom only four lived to the age of twenty-one years, and of which two only ſurvived their much lamented parents.

1. Richard, born at Saffron Walden in Eſſex, October 4, 1723, who ſerved as captain of marines, on board the Rippon man of war of ſixty guns, at the ſiege of Guadalupe, one of the French Caribbee iſlands, in the year 1759. He married Ann, the only daughter of Benjamin Bromhead, of Thurleby, near Lincoln.

2. John, who died at ſea in the command of the Bedford man of war of ſeventy guns, and was buried off the Rock of Liſbon, February 8, 1747.

3. William, who ſerved with his eldeſt brother at the ſiege of Guadalupe, in the Weſt Indies, and was lieutenant in the 4th regiment of foot: he died at ſea, on his paſſage home from the Engliſh garriſon in the citadel of Baſſe Terre, Guadalupe, and buried off the iſland of St. Kitt's, in July 1761.

4. Margaret, married to the Rev. Thomas Money, rector of Braken-Aſh near Norwich.

The late Dr. Gardiner was a man univerſally reſpected throughout life; a man of learning, and a gentleman: his excellent diſcourſes in the pulpit proclaimed him to be the firſt, his addreſs and affability out of it to be the laſt. He was a moſt tender parent to his children, an affectionate huſband, a humane good man to all! The tears of his pariſhioners at his funeral, bore an honorable teſtimony to his virtues. His pall was ſupported by ſix of the neighbouring clergy, whoſe concern in that laſt melancholy office, was alone exceeded by the poignant feelings of thoſe more nearly allied.

In 1771, James Trivett was preſented to this rectory by the earl of Orford. In 1772, Cock Langford, preſented by the earl of Orford.

Over the grave-ſtone, near the altar, is the following inſcription:

H. S. E.
JOHANNES GARDINER,
L. L. D.
Per triginta annos
et Amplius
Hujus Eccleſiæ
RECTOR.

The

The foregoing was found after Dr. Gardiner's deceaſe, in his own hand writing, and was therefore put upon the ſtone in preference to any other inſcription.

Ob. Novem. 15 *Die* 1770, *ætat.* 68.
Lapidam
Cariſſimo Patri
Ricardus Filius Superſtes
Mœrens Poſuit.
MDCCLXXI.

MASSINGHAM PARVA. Great Maſſingham and Little Maſſingham, as before obſerved, were undivided before, and at the grand ſurvey making one townſhip, the greateſt part of which was in the Conqueror's hands, being the poſſeſſions of Harold, the late king, who was killed at the battle of Haſtings. Another part of Maſſingham was the lordſhip of Euſtace, earl of Bologne: this was what is now called Maſſingham Parva.

This manor came to ſir Robert de Thorpe, and continued in the family of the Thorpes for many generations; thence to the family of the Tilneys at Boſton.

Frederick Tilney, of Boſton, was lord of this manor in 1454, ſix years before the death of Hen. VI. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Laurence Cheyney, eſq. of Ditton in Cambridgeſhire. By her he had one only daughter, Elizabeth, who married ſir Humphrey Bourchier, knight, (eldeſt ſon of John lord Berners) who was ſlain at Barnet field, on the part of king Edward IV. on Eaſter-day, 1471, and was lord of this manor in right of his wife: ſhe afterwards married Thomas Howard, ſon and heir of

John lord Howard, (who was created earl of Surry, and after was duke of Norfolk) and dying in 1507, was buried in the nuns choir of the Minories, without Aldgate, London; but this manor was held for life, by the courteſy of England, by her huſband.

Sir John Bourchier, ſon and heir of ſir Humphry, was ſummoned to parliament as lord Berners, in the 11th and 12th of Henry VII: &c. and died deputy general of the town and marches of Calais, March 19, 1532.

He married Catherine, daughter of John Howard duke of Norfolk, who ſurvived him, and died March 12, 1535.

In the 7th year of king Henry VIII. the jury find, on the death of ſir William Capel, knight, that long before his death, ſir John Bourchier, lord Berners, had ſold his reverſion of this manor and advowſon to ſir William Capel, who gave it to his grandſon Edward, ſecond ſon of ſir Giles Capel, ſon and heir to ſir William, being then held, as it is ſaid, of the prior of Caſtleacre. This Edward, (afterwards a knight) ſold it in the 26th of Henry VIII. by fine, with Ann his wife, to John Jenour and Anthony Brown: ſoon after this it came to the Mordaunts family, who before this had an intereſt in the ſaid town.

Henry L'Eſtrange, of Hunſtanton, eſq. by his will, dated November 13, 1483, appears to be lord of it; and his third ſon, John L'Eſtrange, eſq. who married Margaret, daughter and coheir of ſir Thomas L'Eſtrange, of Walton Deville in Warwickſhire, eſq. died ſeiſed of this lordſhip.

By

By his will, dated December 16, 1516, he bequeaths his body to be buried (if he died within five miles of Maſſingham) before our Bleſſed Lady, in the chapel on the ſouth ſide of the chancel of this church, and that a tomb be made for him, and ſet up there in the ſaid chapel, after the manner of ſir Henry Heydon's tomb in Norwich, with the arms of him, his wife, and his anceſtors, and a ſculpture of him and his wife, with an *orate*, &c. and if his corps lies in any other place, he wills that a plain ſtone, with his arms and his wife's, be laid over him, but that a tomb be nevertheleſs erected here.

To the church of Maſſingham Parva he gives a veſtment and tunicle, after the rate of ſir Robert Ratclyff's cope, with *orate*, &c. of white damaſk, price eight marks, to be made after the rate of the green veſtment at Hunſtanton, with the Stranges arms, but that his three eſcutcheons have his father's arms on the one ſide, his father-in-law's on the other, and his and his wife's at the tail. To Barbara his daughter, all his books of law, except the boarded books, to be given to her ſon, if ſhe have the fortune to have one: his boarded books to the library of Lincoln's-Inn, every one of them to have a ſcripture of his gift, being a fellow, twice reader, and twice treaſurer of that ſociety; and to the chapter of that houſe, a veſtment and an altar cloth, price ten marks: to his wife the manors of Maſſingham and Congham, and after her deceaſe to her daughter Barbara; and in default to Richard Le Strange, the ſon of Thomas Le Strange; Maſter William Mordaunt and Barbara his daughter, &c. executors. Proved October 23, 1517.

This John is ſaid to have been one of the king's judges.

Barbara, his daughter and heir, married Robert Mordaunt, eſq. lord of this manor and Congham in her right, which Robert was eldeſt ſon of William Mordaunt, prothonotary of the common pleas, by Jane his wife, daughter and coheir of Thomas Huntington, eſq. of Hempſtead in Eſſex. It appears that in the 21ſt of Henry VIII. he and his wife held this manor, and lands called Elingham's, Walcote's, Ruſteyn's, Geffrey's, Pettygard's, and Alexander's, with thirty meſſuages here and in Congham St. Ann's, St. Andrew's, and All Saints, &c. and in this family it ſtill remains, ſir Charles Mordaunt, bart. of Walton Deville in Warwickſhire, being the preſent lord, deſcended from ſir Oſbert de Mordaunt, a Norman knight, lord of Radwill in Bedfordſhire, by the gift of his brother Euſtachius de Sancto Ægidio, which he had by the gift of the Conqueror, for his and his father's ſervices at the conqueſt.

The church is dedicated to St. Andrew.

On a marble grave-ſtone—*Orate p. a'i'a. D'ni, Jacobi Baſtard, quondam rectoris iſtius eccl'ie, qui totaliter tectum hujus cancelli fieri fecit, et obt. Ao. Dni.* 1530, *cuj. &c.*

Between the arch at the upper end of the nave and the ſouth iſle, is an altar monument of grey marble, raiſed above a yard from the ground, on which have been the portraitures of a man and woman, and that of our Saviour on the croſs, with the ſhields of arms, and a rim of braſs running round it, now all reaved and ſtolen; probably in memory of John L'Eſtrange, eſq. and Margaret his wife, before mentioned; and in a window near to it were the arms of the ſaid John, gules, two lions paſſant

paſſant guardant, argent, quartering his wife's, which were the ſame, with a bendlet over all, or.

Againſt a pillar, a copartment of marble with the arms of Mordaunt, impaling Talmarſh; argent, a frett, ſable.—*Sir Charles Mordaunt, knight and baronet, dyed at London, July* 10, 1648, *aged* 33, *he was married to Catherine, daughter of Sir Lionel Tallemache, of Helmingham in Suffolk, knight a baronet, by whom he had Sir Charles, his eldeſt ſon, Kath. Tallemache, (dying before her father) John, Henry, (departed alſo) Elizabeth and Amy.*

Here remains in civill truſt
His beloved bewayled duſt,
Whoſe goodneſs is ſecure from fear
Of finding any ſepulchrer.

On a marble grave-ſtone at the eaſt end of the nave—*Hic ſublocantur reliquiæ Dni. Caroli Mordant de Maſſingham, militis et baronnetti, filij et hæredis Rob'ti Mordant militis, de quo D'no Carolo plura ad murum orientalem legantur,* 1648.

On another, with the arms of Mordaunt,—*Carolus Mordant baronettus, Caroli Mordant, baronetti, et Katherinæ Talamach filius, humanitatis et virtutis exemplar, obt. Ao. Dni.* 1664, *die* 24 *Apr.*

Anno ætat. 25, *in æternum doloris et amoris monumentum Elizabetha Thori. conſors integerrima marmor hoc poſuit.*

On another—*M.S.—D'na Anna W. Riſley de Bedford gen. filia et hæres D'ni. Johs. Mordaunt de Walton in com. Warw. bar. uxor amans et amata, caſta, pia, fidelis, affabilitate, pudicitia, et morum ſuavitate, peramabilis;*

mabilis; variolis malignis occidens, mortis exuvias (certa ſpe renaſcendi ad gloriam) hoc ſubter marmor depoſuit.

Obijt prid. non Junij anno ſalutis noſtræ 1692, *ætatis ſuæ — — — bis gravida et ſemel puerpera, heu nullam reliquit ſobolem, quippe alteram in incunabilis, alteram in utero cum matre ademptum lugemus, Penelope quam ſolam peperit, matrem præcedens, eodem quieſcit ſepulchro. Et ſic inmaternis amplexibus dormire videatur. Vita vix inchoata receſſit, prid. non. Janur. Ao. Chriſti incarnati* 1690.

In 1760, on the reſignation of the Rev. Armine Styleman, rector of Ringſtead, and brother of Nicolas Styleman, eſq. of Snettiſham, the Rev. Charles Mordaunt, ſecond ſon of ſir Charles Mordaunt, was preſented to this rectory by his father.

MIDDLETON, lies about three miles eaſt of Lynn, in the road to Swaffham, on a turnpike road.

Scales Hall. This lordſhip was under many ſovereign princes of this kingdom, in the noble family of lord Scales, one of the moſt powerful barons not only in Norfolk but in all England.

1. In the reign of Henry II. Roger de Scales was lord of this manor.

2. In Richard I. Robert de Scales his ſon.

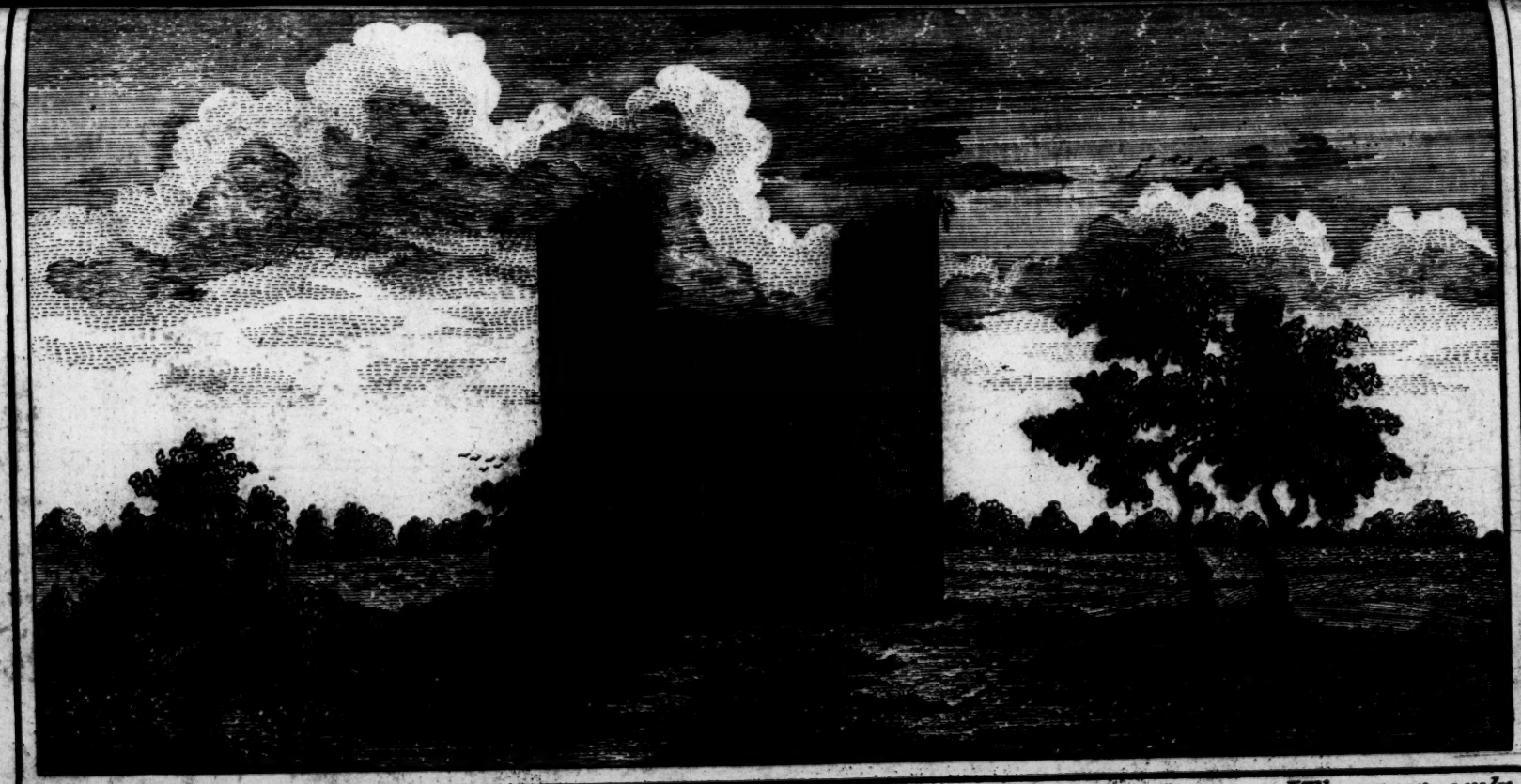
3. In Henry III. Roger de Scales his ſon.

4. The ſame reign, Robert his ſon.

5. In Edward I. Robert his ſon.

6. In Edward II. Robert his ſon.

7. In



J.Barber del. J.Thompson sculp.

To, Mr. Benoni, Mallet, Lord & Patron.

Published as the Act directs May 15 1770

7. { In Edward III. and Richard II. } Robert his ſon.

8. In Henry IV. Robert his ſon.

9. In Henry V. Robert his ſon—diedu nmarried.

In the ſame, Thomas his younger brother.

10. In Henry VI. the ſaid Thomas was lord.—He was killed the latter end of the reign of Henry VI. His ſon Thomas died before him, and his daughter married the ſon and heir of earl Rivers, in the reign of Edward IV. who was ſummoned to parliament by the title of lord Scales.

11. In Edward IV. Anthony lord Scales, in whom the title of Scales was extinguiſhed. He was beheaded at Pomfret by order of Richard duke of Glouceſter, on the death of Edward IV. to whoſe queen he was brother.

The title of Scales, and great poſſeſſions, thus continued in a lineal deſcent, almoſt from father to ſon, from the reign of Henry II. to the death of Edward IV. a ſpace of three hundred years and upwards.

In the 33d of Edward I. it appears by the eſcheat rolls that he died ſeiſed of this lordſhip.

Robert lord Scales, ſon of Robert and Iſabel his wife, was in the 34th of Edward I. created knight of the Bath with prince Edward, and in the 1ſt of Edward II. ſummoned to attend his coronation, to be ſolemnized after the feaſt of St. Valentine, by writ dated at Dover, Jan. 8. The lady Iſabel his mother, in the 9th of that king, ſettled on her ſon Robert

bert, and Egelina his wife, on their marriage, the manors of Scales-Howe and Iſlington: ſhe was daughter of ſir Hugh Courtney, and ſiſter of Hugh Courtney, earl of Devonſhire. This lord Robert died in the 18th of Edward II. leaving a ſon, Robert.

In the year 1333, in the 7th of Edward III. he had livery of his lands, and in that king's 16th year, the king's writ to provide ten men at arms and ten archers, to be ſent into Britanny for the honour of his king and country; and if he would go himſelf with them, the king would be mightily pleaſed: and in the 31ſt of the ſaid king, he was ſummoned to come immediately at the ſiege of Calais, not ſtaying for the embarkation of his horſes, with all the power he could raiſe, the king fearing that the French king would come with all his power to raiſe the ſiege.

In the 30th of that reign he had letters of protection, being to accompany the prince of Wales into Gaſcoigne. In the 43d of Edward III. he died, leaving Roger his ſon and heir, aged 22; who in the 4th of Richard II. was ſeized by the Norfolk rebels; and in his 8th year was ſummoned, June 13, to meet the king at Newcaſtle upon Tyne, with his whole ſervice of horſe and arms, as by allegiance bound, to attend him into Scotland; and in the enſuing year was with John duke of Lancaſter, in the Spaniſh expedition, and ſtiled himſelf lord of Newcells.

This Robert lord Scales died in the 10th of Richard II. leaving a ſon, Robert, of fourteen years of age. His ſon, Robert lord Scales, was one of the lords in parliament who, in the 1ſt year of Hen. IV. voted for the ſafe cuſtody of the late Richard II. He died in the 2d year of Henry IV. leaving Robert his ſon, ſix year of age.

This Robert died unmarried, in the 7th of Henry V. ſome ſay was killed on the king's march from Caen in Normandy toward Roan.

Thomas lord Scales was aged 21, on the death of his brother Robert; and on the 1ſt of May, in the 9th of Henry V. was retained by indenture to ſerve that king in the wars of France, and to be at Dover on the 23d of that month, with twenty men at arms, ſixty archers on horſeback, to be paid a quarter's wages down, and after from month to month, in Engliſh gold, or money current in France, by the treaſurer of war there; to have all priſoners, except kings, princes, kings ſons, and eſpecially Charles, called Dauphin of Vienne, and other great captains of royal blood, and chieftains and lieutenants under him, the ſaid Charles; and except all thoſe who had a hand in the murder of the duke of Burgoyne.

In theſe wars he behaved gallantly, and was ſeneſcall of Normandy, as appears from his ſeal in the 20th of Henry VI. with ſix eſcallops; his creſt a plume of oſtrich's feathers, iſſuing out of a ducal coronet, circumſcribed,—S. *Thomæ Dnj. Scalis et de Neucellis ſeneſcallj Normaniæ;* without any ſupporters.

In the 3d of Henry VI. being then in France with the duke of Bedford, the regent, he was elected knight of the garter, at St. George's feaſt at Windſor. About four years after, he was taken priſoner in France and redeemed.

This lord was in high favour with king Henry VI. and his queen. On the arrival of the earls of March, Warwick and Saliſbury, from Calais, and their

their entry into London on July 2, in the 38th of the ſaid king, he took poſſeſſion of, and ſecured the Tower of London, with other lords, for the king; but after the battle of Northampton, on the 9th of that month, wherein the king was taken, many in the Tower ſurrendering themſelves, this lord endeavouring to make his eſcape, entered a wherry or boat, late in the evening, with three others, and rowing towards Weſtminſter to take ſanctuary, was deſcried by a woman, and the wherry men falling upon him, killed him and caſt him on land, (as Stowe ſays) beſide St. Mary Overy's.

Hall relates, that on king Henry's entering into London after the aforeſaid battle, with the earl of March, &c. on July 16, the Tower of London was delivered to the ſaid earl by compoſition, but the lord Scales ſuſpecting the ſequel of the delivery, entered a wherry, privily intending to have fled to the queen, but was eſpied by divers watermen belonging to the earl of Warwick, who waited for his forth coming on the Thames, and he was ſuddenly taken, and ſhortly ſlain with many darts and daggers, and his body left all bloody and naked at the gate of the Clynke, which after was buried in the church adjoining, that is, in St. Mary Overy's, in Surry. He is ſaid to have had a ſon, Thomas, who died before him; ſo that he left a daughter and ſole heir, Elizabeth, then married, as is ſaid, to ſir Henry Bourchier, knight, ſecond ſon of Henry Bourchier, earl of Eſſex, aged 24.

On the 27th of May, in the 2d of king Edward IV. we find the ſaid Elizabeth to be the wife of Anthony Woodville, ſon and heir of Richard Woodville, earl Rivers, lord treaſurer to that king, and father of Elizabeth his queen; and in February following

lowing was ſummoned to parliament by the title of lord Scales.

Sir Anthony Woodville had no children by the lady Elizabeth, ſo that the lineal deſcent of the family of lord Scales ended in her.

Sir Anthony, whoſe titles were earl of Rivers, lord of Scales and Newcells, upon the death of Edward IV. was ſeized and arreſted by the duke of Glouceſter, at Northampton, about the end of the ſaid month, coming to London with the young king, Edward V. of whom he had the governance, and forthwith committed to the caſtle of Sheriff-Hutton in Yorkſhire, where he made his laſt will, on June 23 following, the day before the cruel murder of the young king and his brother in the Tower of London, as Dugdale relates, which was to this purpoſe, as follows:

" I, Anthony Woodville, in the caſtle of Sheriff-
" Hutton, bequeath all my lands that were my fa-
" ther's to my brother ſir Edward Woodville, and
" his heirs male; my heart to be buried (if I die
" ſouth of Trent) before our Lady of Pewe, beſide
" St. Stephen's college at Weſtminſter, alſo the lands
" that were my firſt wife's, the lady Scales, and
" Thomas lord Scales's her brother, to my brother
" ſir Edward, and his heirs male; but he to whom
" it ſhould come, before he took poſſeſſion thereof,
" to deduct five hundred marks to be employed for
" the ſouls of the ſaid lady and her brother, and
" the ſouls of all the Scales's blood, &c. and to find
" a prieſt for one year to pray for them, his own
" ſoul, and all Chriſtian ſouls, at our Lady of Pewe;
" and another prieſt to ſing at the chapel of the
" Rodes in Greenwich, for his own ſoul, and all
" Chriſtian ſouls."

Soon after the date of this will, he was carried to Pontefract caſtle in Yorkſhire, and was there brought on a ſcaffold by ſir Richard Ratcliff, one of the duke of Glouceſter's chief confidents, and not ſuffered to ſpeak any thing in vindication of himſelf, ſir Richard telling the people he was a traitor.

We find this ſir Edward his brother, in his laſt will, dated February 20, 1490, and proved March 23 in the ſaid year, to ſtile himſelf earl Rivers, and gives his body to be buried in the abbey of St. James at Northampton.

Hall ſays he was beheaded at Pontefract, with the lord Richard Gray, (the queen's ſon by her firſt huſband) ſir Thomas Vaughan and ſir Richard Haute, the ſame day the lord Haſtings was beheaded in the Tower, and their bodies were buried naked in the monaſtery there.

Dugdale ſays, that in the 2d of Richard III. John duke of Norfolk had a grant of this lordſhip, and ſoon after, on the death of Richard, was forfeited: this grant was dated February 1, anno 2d of Richard III.

On the acceſſion of king Henry VII. Elizabeth, daughter and heir of ſir John Howard, wife of John de Vere, earl of Oxford, was found one of the heirs of Elizabeth, late lady Scales, abovementioned, as great grand-daughter of Margaret Scales, daughter of Robert lord Scales, wife of ſir Robert Howard, and ſiſter of Roger lord Scales. The other heir was ſir William Tyndal, knighted on the creation of Arthur, prince of Wales, deſcended from Elizabeth Scales, ſiſter of the aforeſaid Margaret, which Elizabeth, married ſir Roger Felbrigg, and had ſir Simon Felbrigg,

Felbrigg, whoſe daughter and heir, Alana, married ſir William Tyndal, grandfather to ſir William abovementioned.

On a diviſion of the Scales's eſtate, this townſhip was aſſigned to the family of the earls of Oxford; and John de Vere, earl of Oxford, ſon of the abovementioned Elizabeth, was lord of this manor, and dying without iſſue, it deſcended to his nephew, John de Vere, earl of Oxford, ſon of his brother ſir George de Vere; and on the death of the ſaid John, his eſtate was divided amongſt his three ſiſters and coheirs.

Dorothy, who married John Nevill, lord Latimer, and Elizabeth, who married ſir Anthony Wingfield, of Letheringham in Suffolk, knight of the garter, vice-chamberlain, &c. to king Henry VIII. had each a moiety of this lordſhip.

John lord Latimer, ſon of John lord Latimer, by Dorothy, had livery of his part or moiety in the beginning of queen Elizabeth, who dying in 1577, his eſtate was divided amongſt his four daughters and coheirs; and his right in this town came to ſir Thomas Cecil, afterwards earl of Exeter, by the marriage of Dorothy, one of the ſaid four daughters and coheirs, who purchaſed alſo the Wingfield part or moiety, and ſold the whole to ſir Thomas Holland, by a licence for ſo doing, (it being held *in capite*) on January 1, 19th James I.

In 1635, ſir John Heveningham is ſaid to be lord.

In 1649, ſir William Paſton, bart. was lord.

Richard Berney, eſq. died lord in 1699, and this manor was ordered by a decree in chancery to be

ſold (1709) to pay his debts, being mortgaged by him to Mrs. Martell.

Iſaac Lcheup, eſq. was lord, and on his death it came to his two daughters and coheirs.

Mary, one of them, married ſir Edward Williams, bart. of Wales; the other, Elizabeth, to ——— Lloyd, eſq. of Epping in Eſſex.

Sir Edward was lord of this manor in her right, and ſold it to vice-admiral Savage Moſtyn, who dying in 1757, left it to ſir Roger Moſtyn, bart. his nephew, who ſold it to a tenant of the late lord Leiceſter's.

Edward Everard, eſq. alderman of the corporation of Lynn, has a pleaſant houſe and gardens in this village, with a mount which looks over the town, and channel of the harbour.

There were three other manors in this town, which were probably all united in the family of the lord Scales.

BURY ABBEY MANOR,

CASTLE-HALL MANOR, and

TYRRINGTON-HALL MANOR.

In this town the lords Scales had their ſeat, part of which is ſtill remaining, the gate-houſe or tower.

The church of Middleton is dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and is a regular pile, conſiſting of a nave, a north and ſouth iſle, with a chancel, the nave and north and ſouth iſles are covered with lead, and the chancel

chancel with reed, and has a ſquare tower with one bell.

In the windows of the north iſle theſe arms are on painted glaſs,—gules, ſix eſcallops, argent, lord Scales.

A grave-ſtone, *In memory of James Everard, A. M. vicar of this pariſh, who died May* 29, 1722, *aged* 50.

On the diſſolution of Blackburgh priory in this town, the appropriated rectory came to the crown, with the patronage of the vicarage, and were granted, in the 9th of James I. to Francis Morris and Francis Phelps, and in the December following conveyed by them to ſir Henry Spelman.

The preſent vicar, the Rev. John Dowſing, was preſented in 1758, by Elizabeth, daughter of Iſaac Leheup, eſq. widow of —— Lloyd, eſq.

BLACKBURGH PRIORY. This priory was endowed with conſiderable revenues by the lord Scales and other families: there is nothing now remaining of it, except a part turned into a dove-houſe.

MINTLING. This lordſhip is adjoining to Gaywood, is called in Doomſday-book Meltinga, and was then the lordſhip of William de Beaufoe, biſhop of Thetford, which he held in his own right.

This biſhop, on his death, gave this and many other lordſhips to his church, and it continued in the ſee of Norwich till granted, with Gaywood, by king Henry VIII. to the duke of Norfolk, and ſo came (as is there obſerved) to the Thurſbys, and was ſold by Francis Thurſby, eſq. to ſir Cyril Wyche.

Some conceive that it takes its name from a mint that the biſhops of Norwich had here for coining of money, a privilege which many great ſees, both in England and beyond ſea, were endowed with; but this is a miſtake, it being ſo called long before the ſee at Elmham, Thetford, or Norwich, had any right or intereſt in it; *Mel* is to be met with in many towns, as Melford, Melburn, Melton, &c. from Mel, a river, and Ing, a meadow; we find alſo a priory at Mintling in Lincolnſhire.

Biſhop Beaufoe had a grant from the Conqueror of this town, Sedgeford in Smithdon hundred——Eccles in Shropham hundred——Langham in Holt hundred—Gunton and Shipdam in North Erpingham hundred——Walſham in Walſham hundred—Blofield and Plumſtead in Blofield hundred—Hemeſby in Weſt Flegg hundred—Rockland in Henſtead hundred—Mendham in Earſham hundred—North Langley in Loddon hundred——Helmingham and Thurning in Eynsford hundred—Taverham and Attleburgh in Taverham hundred—Blickling, Barningham, Eaſt Beckham, Maſham and Stratton in South Erpingham hundred—Horſey in Happing hundred—Scratby, Ormeſby and Thrigby, in Eaſt Flegg hundred—Stratton in Depwade hundred—Raveningham in Clavering hundred—Creſſingham Magna in South Greenhoe hundred—Hunſtanton in Smithdon hundred—Stanford in Grimſhoe hundred—Gateley in Launditch hundred—Colkirk in Brothercroſs hundred—Saxlingham in Gallow hundred—Snetterley, Burningham and Melton, in Holt hundred——Hindringham and Thorpe in North Greenhoe hundred—Houghton, Barningham and Beckham, in North Erpingham hundred—Hemlington in Walſham hundred——Plumſtead in Burlingham, Freethorpe and Litcham, Bradiſton, Catton and Bucham, Brundall and

and Witton in Blofield hundred—Winterton, Somerton, Aſhby Martham, Rolleſby, Burgh, Baſtwick, Hadeſcoe, Billockby and Clippeſby in Weſt Flegg hundred—South Burlingham and Tivetſhall in Henſtead hundred, and the lands of St. Michael in Norwich, and Taverham in Taverham hundred.

All theſe lordſhips were granted to him, to be held by him in fee, in his own right.

GAYTON-WELL-HALL. Near to Gayton (and now included in Gayton town) when the book of Doomſday was made, was a town called Welle, from its watery ſcite.

Of this town or lordſhip, Stigand (who held it as a lay fee) was deprived by the Conqueror, who gave it to William de Eſchoies, or Scohies, who poſſeſſed it but a ſhort time, and gave it to the abbey of St. Stephen's at Caen in Normandy.

King Richard II. in his 5th year, granted this priory and manor to ſir John Devereux and Mary his wife, and Joan their daughter, for their lives; and on the 25th of June, in the 3d of Henry V. John Wodehouſe, eſq. (the renowned warrior) had a grant of it by the name of the priory, or houſe of Wells, with the manor of Wells, to be held by the ſervice of a roſe, to be paid on Midſummer-day. In 1421 he obtained licence to appropriate the rectory which belonged to the priory, and was now veſted in him, to the chauntry prieſt of the Holy Trinity, and the five wounds of Chriſt, in the lower chapel of the charnel houſe at Norwich, near to the cathedral church, wherein he was afterwards buried, which prieſt was to officiate there for his ſoul. The manor was at this time valued at 29l. 10s. 2d. per ann.

Roger Weſt, eſq. preſented to the vicarage in 1694, as lord of Well-Hall, and in 1699: after this ——— Sharrock, eſq. was lord, and by his laſt will gave the patronage of the vicarage of Gayton to the ſee of Norwich; the biſhop of Norwich preſented in 1707 and 1740.

Robert Sharrock, eſq. of Gately in the hundred of Launditch is the preſent proprietor and lord of the manor.

NEWTON WEST. (Wrote Nivetuna in the grand ſurvey, that is, a Tuna, or Town, nigh to a water, or river, as this is, and not as ſome may conceive from its new ſcite, or erection.) It was a beruite to the manor of Snettiſham, and held by the archbiſhop Stigand, in the Confeſſor's time, in his own right, who being in arms againſt the Conqueror, he ſeized on it, and gave it to Odo biſhop of Baieux in France, his brother in law, lord at the ſurvey.

There are two manors in this town, which adjoins to Sandringham, and is about ſeven miles from Lynn.

BUCKENHAM MANOR, and
BEAUFOE'S, or RIVET'S MANOR.

In 1297, the 25th of Edward I. Hugh de Buckenham kept his court here, and gave name to the manor of Buckenham.

Both theſe manors, after many deſcents, came to the Hoſtes, and by marriage of a daughter to the late Henry Corniſh Henley, eſq. whoſe only ſon is a minor, 1778.

The

The church of Newton is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, and is a rectory. The Rev. James Sharp is the preſent rector, and was preſented by the late king in 1732.

PENTNEY, MANOR and PRIORY. The priory founded in this town was dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. Mary Magdalen, and had conſiderable endowments.

Sir John de Thorpe gave, in the 16th of Edward II. a lordſhip in Gayton Thorpe, with a meſſuage, one hundred acres of land, four of paſture there, and in Walton, Wykes and Bekeſwell, and the advowſon of a moiety of the church of Gayton Thorpe, with twenty-eight acres of land in Tilney; and before this, in the 11th of the ſaid king, the prior had licence to purchaſe a meſſuage, twenty-two acres of land, two roods of paſture, and ſeven ſhillings rent of Amicia, wife of John Butterwick, in Fincham and Stradſet; and in the 45d of Edward III. had a patent for the manor of Belhouſe, in North Tuddenham.

In the 44th of Edward III. the prior had a grant of free warren in this manor, Weſt Bilney and Thorpe; and in the 12th of Richard II. the men of Pentney were allowed to be toll free, it being eſteemed antient demeans.

This houſe had alſo a manor in Ketteringham, with the rectory appropriated, and the patronage of the vicarage, to which Richard de la Rokele added land; and Alice de Kangham, who in 1249, gave twenty-eight acres of land, eight of wood, and five ſhillings rent per ann.

Shottiſham All Saints, and St. Botolph's rectories were appropriated, and they preſented to the vicarages of thoſe churches. Shottiſham St. Mary's church was alſo appropriated, to which they preſented a vicar, and was granted by William de Roos, with a carucate of land, in 1311, who married Maud de Vaux. The churches of Pentney, Thurſton, Weſt Bilney, Shernbourne, and Reepham, alias Whitwell, appropiated alſo; and the preſentation of the vicar of Shernbourne, Whitwell and Thurſton, in Norfolk, was in this priory, with the patronage of St. Mary's church of Warham.

About the time of the ſuppreſſion, here was a prior with thirteen canons.

King Henry VIII. on the 11th of March, in his 30th year, granted to Thomas Mildmay, eſq. auditor of the Exchequer, the ſcite of this diſſolved priory, with a water-mill, the manor of Pentney, called Aſhwood, a foldcourſe for two hundred ſheep, and all the meſſuages, lands, &c. belonging to the ſaid priory in this town; and king Edward VI. in his 4th year, February 26, granted him the impropriated rectory. Sir Thomas Mildmay, his ſon, conveyed all the aforeſaid premiſes to Francis Windham, eſq. a judge of the King's Bench; and on April 1, in the 20th of James I. ſir Henry Windham had licence to ſell it to ſir Edward Bullock, knt. of Falkbourn-hall in Eſſex, from whom it was conveyed to ſir Thomas Richardſon, knt. lord chief juſtice of the King's Bench, who died ſeiſed of it October 24, 1631; and ſir Thomas, his ſon, inherited it.

The family of Violet in Norfolk, had after this an intereſt herein.

Charles

Charles Nowys, eſq. of Wood Ditton in Cambridgeſhire, was lord about 1710.

This manor is now in the heirs of the late —— Lloyd, eſq. of Epping in Eſſex.

Robert Jodde was prior in 1526. He was the laſt prior, and with Richard Lynne, and twelve other canons, ſubſcribed to the king's ſupremacy September 9, 1534, and ſurrendered this priory to the king. and had penſions for life.

The ſcite of this priory is about a mile weſtward of the church; the gate-houſe, which is a curious building of free-ſtone, is ſtill ſtanding, and covered with lead: a print of it was publiſhed a few years ſince by Mr. Millicent.

The church of Pentney was dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, and appropriated to the priory.

ROYDON, or REYDON, or RYDON, was in king Edwards time a beruite, or berwick, appertaining or belonging to the great or capital lordſhip of Snettiſham.

It takes its name from Rye, or Rei, (river) of which ſee in Ryſing; and Don, or Dun, a hill.

In the reign of Edward III. this town was in the Wodehouſe family.

Sir Richard de Wodehouſe, ſon of ſir William, lived in the reign of Edward III. and was lord of Roydon, and by virtue of this lordſhip, &c. held of the caſtle of Riſing, was obliged to repair and maintain a tower of that caſtle called Wodehouſe's tower,

tower, and paid a ſum of money yearly for the caſtle guard, and as we preſume lived here.

John Wodehouſe, eſq. of the body to king Henry V. famous for his gallant behaviour at the battle of Agincourt, had his reſidence here, and was conſtable of the caſtle of Riſing.

It appears from a manuſcript of William de Worceſter, alias Botoner, who lived in the reigns of Henry VI. and Edward IV. that he was in the retinue and family of ſir John Faſtolfe, knight of the garter, (his herald, and one of his executors) that this John Wodehouſe built here a large and moſt royal and beautiful manor-houſe, called the Rey, on the river hereby, which coſt him above two thouſand marks ſterling, with ſtately offices, &c. about a mile from Riſing, in which he died 1430; and that this noble edifice was entirely deſtroyed, and pulled down to the ground, by the advice and aſſiſtance of Thomas lord Scales, about September 21, 1454, by the conſent of the heir of the founder, and his particular friend: the reaſon aſſigned is, that Thomas Daniel, eſq. of Lancaſhire, late ſheriff of Norfolk, by the aſſiſtance and power of John Mowbray, duke of Norfolk, on account of his marrying a kinſwoman of the ſaid duke, pretending a right and title to the ſaid lordſhip, falſly aſſerting that Wodehouſe, the heir to his father, the founder, had given it to him. On this pretence he ſeveral times entered the ſame by force, and a great army of the duke. And this the lord Scales did out of a good intention, though much to the loſs and damage of Wodehouſe's heir.

Upon this we preſume the ſaid Thomas Daniel became lord, and was alſo conſtable of Riſing caſtle,

tle, &c. but on the acceſſion of Edward IV. the ſaid Thomas is ſaid to have been attainted, and it was then moſt likely granted to Anthony Woodville, who was created lord Scales, having married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Thomas lord Scales abovementioned: on the death of this lady, in the 13th of Edward IV. it was found that ſhe held this manor of Roydon; and Anthony lord Scales, &c. in her right preſented to this rectory in 1473 and 1479.

On the death of Anthony lord Scales and earl Rivers, it probably came again into the Wodehouſe family: in 1552 and 1561, Margaret, widow of Thomas Wodehouſe, eſq. eldeſt ſon of ſir Roger Wodehouſe, (who died in 1547, before his father) being jointured herein, preſented to the church; and Roger Wodehouſe, eſq. was lord in the 36th of Henry VIII.

Soon after this it was poſſeſſed by Ralph Waller, eſq. who preſented to the church in 1564 and 1572; afterwards Richard Hovell, eſq. was lord of it. In the 2d year of king James I. the receiver of Henry Howard, earl of Northampton, accounted for 1100l. paid to Richard Hovell, eſq. for the purchaſe of the manor of Roydon; and in the next year a fine was levied thereof, and of lands bought there of Thomas Foſter and Edward Callow, &c.

The ſaid earl, by deed dated April 13, in the 8th of king James, granted to Owen Shepherd, the next preſentation of this church, to which is his ſeal of arms, four coats, viz. Howard, Brotherton, Warren and Mowbray, within the garter; and died poſſeſſed of it in 1616, and then came to Thomas Howard earl of Arundel, his heir, and afterwards

to

to the Howards, earls of Berkſhire, and to the preſent lord, the earl of Suffolk.

The church is dedicated to All Saints, and is a rectory.

The preſent rector is the Rev. Philip Pyle.

RUNCTON, NORTH. This lordſhip was in the lords Bardolf of Hoo, and in this family it continued till the death of Thomas lord Bardolf, who was attainted and beheaded, being in rebellion againſt king Henry IV, and that king granted it to his brother, Thomas Beaufort, duke of Exeter.

In the 1ſt of king Edward VI. Chriſtopher Coningſby, eſq. of Wallington, was found to die ſeiſed of it, and left it to his three daughters and coheirs, Elizabeth, Ann, and Amy. Francis Gawdy, eſq. by the marriage of Elizabeth, the eldeſt, had a third part of the ſame: Thomas Clark, eſq. of Hampſhire, who married Amy, and Alexander Balam, eſq. who married Ann, held the other two parts in the 1ſt of Elizabeth, which were purchaſed by the ſaid Gawdy, afterwards a knight, and lord chief juſtice of the common pleas. At his death in, or about 1605, it came to his daughter and heir Elizabeth, who by ſir William Hatton, alias Newport, had a daughter and heir Frances, married to Robert Rich, earl of Warwick, lord of this town in her right, and was ſold by him on the 1ſt of June, in the 12th year of king James I. to George Cremer, alias Skryme, which George was third ſon of John Cremer, of Snettiſham in Norfolk.

This lordſhip is now by marriage in the family of lord Fitz-Williams in Ireland.

To

To this town the hamlets of Setchy Magna and Hardwick belong.

SANDRINGHAM, called Sant-Derſingham in the book of Doomſday, from Sand and Derſingham. This town adjoins to Derſingham to the north, and to Weſt Newton ſouth; lies about eight miles north-eaſt of Lynn. The diſtances meaſured with the wheel from Lynn, through Caſtle-Riſing, over Sandringham heath, and through Derſingham, to Snettiſham and Hunſtanton Cliff, St. Edmund's Point, are as follow:

	Miles
From the ſouth gate at Lynn to the croſs in the market - - - -	1
To the toll-gate at Gaywood - -	2
To Caſtle-Riſing - - -	3
To Babingley Lane over the bridge -	1
By Sandringham lodge to the ſhip at Derſingham	3
To Mr. Hoſte's plantations - -	1
To Ingoldiſthorpe common by Mount Amelia	1
From Ingoldiſthorpe fall-gate by Newbridge and Mrs. Styleman's plantations, to Snettiſham	1
From Snettiſham to Mr. Rolfe's plantations at Heacham - - - -	3
From Heacham to Hunſtanton Cliff -	3
Total	19

Wood Hall, probably the name of the houſe formerly, as well as the manor.

In the 20th of Edward III. Roger de Sandringham held it: it came not long after into the family of the Cobbes by the marriage of the daughter and heireſs of Rivet.

It

It continued in the family of the Cobbes till the year 1686, in the reign of James II.

The laſt of the Cobbe family in poſſeſſion was Jeffrey, who married the daughter of Iſaac Aſtley, of Melton-Conſtable, eſq. He ſold this lordſhip about the year 1686 to ſir Edward Atkins, lord chief baron of the exchequer, who ſhortly after conveyed it to James Hoſte, eſq. ſon of Theodore Hoſte, and Jane, daughter of James Deſmarſtres, a rich merchant of London, who by Elizabeth, daughter of Edward Sley, alderman of London, had James Hoſte, eſq. who married Elizabeth, daughter of ſir Edward Walpole, knight of the Bath, of Houghton in Norfolk, by whom he had James Hoſte, eſq, whoſe ſon and heir, James, married Suſan, daughter of Anthony Hammond, eſq. of South Wotton by Lynn, leaving a daughter and heireſs, Suſan, who married Henry Corniſh Henley, eſq.

The arms of Hoſte, azure, a bull's head, caboſed, argent, winged and horned, or.

William Cobbe, grandſon of William, and Mary his wife, daughter of ſir Henry Bedingfield, of Oxborough, bart. and who was only ten years old at the death of his father Jeffrey Cobbe, July 14, 1623, was a great loyaliſt, and a colonel in the army: he diſtinguiſhed himſelf much in the civil wars, and ſuffered conſiderably for his attachment to the king's cauſe; probably he was rewarded, like moſt other loyaliſts, after the reſtoration of Charles II. as we find him ſelling his eſtate in the ſecond year of the next reign.

On Sandringham heath is dug up great plenty of ſtone, called carr or iron ſtone. A great quarry of this

this carr ſtone may be ſeen at Snettiſham, in a cloſe, the property of Nicolas Styleman, eſq. which is by far ſuperior to that found on Sandringham heath: the ſtones dug out are larger and more durable. Sir Robert Walpole built the ſtables at Houghton of this carr ſtone, taken from a cloſe adjoining to Mr. Styleman's quarry. It is ſoft and crumbling at firſt, and has the appearance of brown ſugar, and is often ludicrouſly called ſo, but it hardens by being expoſed in the air, and grows durable by age,

The church of Sandringham ſtands upon an eminence, is dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, and is a rectory. The Rev. James Sharp is the preſent rector.

On a grave-ſtone near the font, with a braſs plate: *Here under lyeth William Cobbes, of Sandringham in the county of Norfolk, who marryed Dorothy, one of the dowghters of Syr John Spelman, Knyght, and had yſſue betweyxt them* iiii *ſons and* viii *dowghters, and the ſayd William deceſſed the* xviii *day of January in the* xxxviii *yere of Kyng Henry the* viii. *A°. Dni.* M.CCCCC.XLI. Alſo on braſs plates the arms of Cobbe, per chevron, ſable and gules, in chief, two ſwans, proper, repectant, and in baſe, a herring cobb, naiant, or; and Boteler quarterly, impaling Spelman and Narburgh, quarterly.

In the church-yard, on the north ſide, are theſe altar tombs, covered with black ſlabs.

One—*In memory of Theodore Hoſte, Eſq. who married Elizabeth, daughter of —— Burleigh, Eſq.* impaling argent, a lion rampant, ſable, and a feſs wavy, azure, over all, and died in 1725.

Another

Another of—*James Hoſte, eſq. who died* 1729, impaling Walpole: he married ——, a daughter of ſir Edward Walpole, of Houghton.

Alſo one for—*Js. Hoſte, Eſq. who died* 1744, impaling Hammond: he married Suſan, daughter of Anthony Hammond, of South Wotton, eſq. azure, three doves, between two chevronels, or.

There alſo lies interred on the north ſide, two ſons of the late major James Hoſte, both of whom died minors: by their deceaſe, the Sandringham eſtate devolved to their ſiſter Suſan, the only daughter of the major, who became heireſs, and married Henry Corniſh Henley, eſq. of Leigh in Dorſetſhire, who died high ſheriff of that county in the year 1774. His father was repreſentative in parliament for Lyme Regis, and on Auguſt 28, 1740, married Catherine, daughter and heireſs of the Rev. Hugh Charles Hare of Docking: he died May 8, 1748: his relict Catherine died October 15, 1778, having ſurvived Mr. Henley thirty years. At her deceaſe, ſhe left her eſtates at Docking and Southmere to John Henley, eſq. youngeſt ſon of her late huſband, and brother to the late Henry Corniſh Henley, eſq. of Sandringham, alſo brother to the lady of Nicolas Styleman, eſq. of Snettiſham.

By the death of the two ſons of major Hoſte, the family eſtates at Derſingham and Ingoldiſthorpe, for want of iſſue male, devolved to the late captain Hoſte, and at his deceaſe in April, 1778, to Dixon Hoſte, eſq. his eldeſt ſon.

SETCHY MAGNA, and HARDWICK, are two hamlets belonging to North Runcton: Setchy Magna is on the great road from London to Lynn, on

on a navigable river, called (higher up) the Nar; but in an old record we find the river here called the Eye, and ſo probably takes its name, as ſet on that river, over which there is here a bridge.

It was part of the lord Bardolf's manor of Runcton, and that lord had a charter of free warren at Magna Setchy, anno 33d of Henry III. with a weekly market on Monday, and two fairs in the year. From thoſe lords it paſſed as above, and was part of the earl of Warwick's manor of Runcton, who in the reign of king James I. had the grant of a market here every fortnight on Tueſday, for fat cattle; and butchers from Norwich, and all parts of this country reſort to it.

The church of North Runcton is dedicated to All Saints. In 1701, Auguſt 15, the old church was deſtroyed by the fall of the tower upon it, and about 1710, rebuilt, the following gentlemen, &c. being the principal benefactors to it.

William lord Fitz Williams gave 100l. Rowland Okeover, eſq. 50l. Trinity College, Cambridge, 20l. ſir Ralph Hare, bart. 10l. ſir John Turner 2l. Robert Walpole, eſq. 5l. John Turner, eſq. 5l. 13s. 4d. Henry Bell 15l. Henry Towers 17l. Charles Wright, rector, 20l. William Adamſon, clerk, 5l. James Everard, clerk, 5l.

The preſent rector is the Rev. Philip Bell, who was preſented in the year 1777.

Robert Coney, eſq, late lieutenant colonel of the Norfolk militia, and while that corps was embodied in the late war and marched out of the county, has a handſome ſeat in this town.

SOUTH LYNN was a lordſhip at the time of the Conqueror, and had ſeveral manors in it. It was a diſtinct village from the borough of Lynn, as appears by the following preſentment.

In the 38th of Henry III. the jury preſent, that there was a common way from this village to Lynn Biſhop's, beyond the bridge called South Bridge, which bridge wanted to be repaired, and they ſay that the men of the burgh always, from time immemorial, uſed to repair and build anew that part of the bridge called the draught, and that they ought not to repair any other part.

GODSCROFT or WESTACRE MANOR at the diſſolution came to the crown.

MANOR of SCALES HOW. Sir Edmund Thorpe was lord in the 3d of Henry IV. in right of the lady Joan his wife, relict of the lord Scales: in this family it continued till Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Thomas lord Scales, brought it by marriage to Anthony Woodville, lord Scales; and on her death the families of Howard and Tindale were her heirs.

On a diviſion of the eſtate of the Scales's, on the acceſſion of king Henry VII. to the crown, this manor, &c. (as may be ſeen in Middleton) came to the earl of Oxford, as one of the heirs; and on the death of John de Vere, earl of Oxford, without iſſue, to his ſiſters and coheirs.

Edmund Mortimer, earl of March, &c. was capital lord of this manor in the 3d of Henry VI.

SETCHY PARVA was a hamlet in the pariſh of South Lynn. In this Setchy Parva, on the banks of

of the river, and near the Ouſe river, was HALL PLACE or MANOR.

In the 11th year of king Edward III. Matthew Herlewine conveyed by fine and truſt to Thomas Duraunt, parſon of Clenchwarton, William Duraunt of South Lynn, and John Kervyle of Wiggenhall, ſeven meſſuages, a ſaltwork, ſeventy-five acres of land, twenty-nine of meadow, a turbary, forty ſhillings rent, a fiſhery at Setchy hithe, with appurtenances in South Lynn, Weſt Winch, Wiggenhall, and North Runcton, and the advowſon of the hoſpital of St. Laurence at Hardwick dam, together with the rents, homages, ſervices, &c. of the maſter of the ſaid hoſpital, of the prior of Wormegay, the prior of Weſtacre, and of John de Lenn.

This manor continued in the family of the Duraunts from the time of Edward III. till the reign of Henry VI. Afterwards it came to the Waltons and the Bedingfields.

In the 17th of Edward IV. Edmund Bedingfield was lord; and in a court held of this manor, grants to John Norris, vicar of South Lynn, the ſcite of the hoſpital of St. Laurence, which was then burnt, till it was rebuilt.

In the family of the Bedingfields, of Oxburgh, in remained till ſir Henry Bedingfield, bart. ſold it in the reign of king George I. to the lord Fitz Williams, in which family it remains.

This village of South Lynn was always a diſtinct and ſeparate place from King's Lynn, till in the 4th and 5th of Philip and Mary, it was granted to be annexed as a member of that burgh for ever, under

the ſame government, and to enjoy the ſame privileges, and to be exempt from any power or authority of the ſheriff of Norfolk.

Several religious houſes had poſſeſſions here.

Here was alſo a houſe called the White Houſe, or the Dairy, with one hundred and ſeventy-three acres of paſture and meadow, held by ſir George Kemp, knt. of Pentlow hall in Eſſex, in the 9th of Charles I.

The church is dedicated to All Saints, and is a vicarage. It is a regular pile, built in form of a croſs, with three iſles and a chancel, covered with lead, the whole being about one hundred and forty feet long; the breadth of the iſles forty-eight feet, the croſs iſle eighty-three feet long; at the weſt end was a ſtrong tower, four ſquare, with battlements of ſtone, and thereon a ſhaft, with the weather-cock; the tower being about eighty-two feet high, and the ſhaft thirty; and five tuneable bells.

The tower fell down in 1763, and part of the end of the church, which is now repaired with a ſtrong brick wall; on the top of which is a kind of cupola, of wood, &c. in which hangs one ſmall bell.

In the chancel lies a marble grave-ſtone with the arms of Baron; in chief, a creſcent, and decreſcent, and in baſe, a mullet.

Juxta patris tumulum chariſſimi et medicinæ doctoris eximii, hic ſitus eſt Andr. Baron, M. A. collegium Petrenſe apud Cantabrig. utroſq; alumnos fovebat, utroſq; ſociorum titulo merito adornavit, mater ſumma cum amore filios amplexa eſt, et filij matrem. Virtutes modeſtia

ſemper

ſemper vetuit reſonari, ſilet itaq; monumentum. Patris obitum proximus indicat lapis, hic filij qui quicquid fuit mortale depoſuit Aug. 14, *A. D.* 1719, *ætat.* 74. *Utriq; hic juxta pace requieſcant, utriq; ad gloriam juxta reſurgant.—Hic jacet Sam. Baron, M. D. qui poſt hanc vitam quam bonis operibus, et vera pietate ornaverat, cœlo donatus eſt* 29 *Apr. A. D.* 1673.

The plate belonging to the communion is conſiderable, in the whole one hundred and fifty-four ounces ten penny weights; about one hundred and thirty ounces of it was the gift of the lady Etheldreda Hovell, relict of ſir William Hovell, of Hillington, ſole daughter and heir of Thomas Lilly.

At the diſſolution this impropriate rectory being in the crown, was aſſigned to the lady Mary, before ſhe came to the crown, and was valued at 11l. 9d. per ann.

In the 20th of James I. it was poſſeſſed by ſir John Jolleys.

In the year 1718 the Rev. Thomas Pyle, (miniſter of St. Margaret's afterwards) was preſented to this vicarage by the Biſhop of Ely: on his deceaſe the biſhop preſented the Rev. Charles Phelpes, the preſent vicar.

WALTON, EAST, The principal part of this town was in the hands of Roger Bigot, a Norman chief, anceſtor of the earls of Norfolk.

This town is in the hundred of Freebridge Lynn, and is called Eaſt Walton to diſtinguiſh it from Weſt Walton in Freebridge Marſhland. It borders upon Weſtacre, and was a beruite formerly depending up-

on the lordſhip of Pentney. It lies eaſt from Lynn about ten miles, and north-weſt from Swaffham ſeven.

WEST DEREHAM ABBEY MANOR. This manor was given to the abbot and canons of Weſt Dereham, in the reign of Richard I. and the abbot held it in the reign of Henry IV.

On the 5th of July, in the 29th of Henry VIII. Robert Forman, abbot of Weſt Dereham, leaſed to William Baker, yeoman, of Eaſt Walton, for ſixty years from Michaelmas before the date, the ſcite of the ſaid manor, with all the houſes, cloſes, meadows, demeſne lands, liberty of foldage, profits of courts, fines, amerciaments, wards, marriages, reliefs, eſcheats, &c. and on the 11th of April king Edward VI. in his 4th year, granted it to Thomas biſhop of Norwich, and his ſucceſſors, and it is held of the biſhop, by leaſe, at this day. Biſhop Scambler leaſed it for eighty years, in 1588, to queen Elizabeth, at 8l. per ann.

LANGLEY ABBEY MANOR. The abbot of Langley held lands here in the reign of Henry III.

PRIOR of PENTNEY'S MANOR. Part of this lordſhip was held by the prior of Pentney.

RICHMOND FEE, or MANOR. Alan, earl of Richmond in Yorkſhire, had a part of this townſhip conferred on him by the Conqueror, for his eminent ſervices.

In the 14th of Henry VI, John duke of Bedford died ſeiſed of this fee, as part of his honour of Richmond; and in the 35th of that king, Edmund earl of

of Richmond was found to have it, and George lord Latimer held it under him: and Richard lord Latimer held it of the ſaid honour, in the 9th of Henry VII.

WESTACRE PRIORY MANOR. Ralph de Tony gave lands to the priory of Weſtacre, and the prior held lands here in the reign of Henry III.

After the diſſolution this manor was conveyed to the Howards, and in the time of queen Elizabeth to ſir William Dean.

HOWARD and STRANGE'S MANOR. Ralph de Beaufoe, a Norman baron, had alſo a lordſhip in this town.

This lordſhip aſſumed the name of Strange's, from William le Strange, who held it in the reign of Henry III, by the fourth part of a fee, of the heirs of Beaufoe; but in the 20th of Edward III. Robert L'Eſtrange held it of Hubert de Rye: the prior of Caſtleacre had part of it; and in the 25th of the ſaid king, ſir John Howard was found to hold it on his death of the aforeſaid Roger, by the ſervice of 2s. per ann. and it was valued at 15l. per ann.

William Walton, of Eaſt Walton, had it conveyed to him by fine, in the 21ſt of Richard II. from William Curſon and Maud his wife.

But in the 2d of Henry VI. Peter Prior, rector of Helleſden in Norfolk, (being a truſtee for it as we take it) demiſed it to Alice, widow of ſir John Howard, in fee: and in the 16th of that king, ſir John Howard, ſenior, died ſeiſed of it, leaving it to his grand-daughter Elizabeth, wife to John de Vere earl

of Oxford, and it was in the Oxford family in the reign of king Henry VIII.

The other moiety was in ſir Robert Southwell, who was found to hold it of the lord Morley, in the 6th of Henry VIII. and Richard Southwell, eſq. was his couſin and heir.

In an account of the eſtate of that family, it appears that ſir Richard granted it to ſir Thomas Greſham, knight.

Here was alſo a lordſhip granted by king Henry VIII. to ſir Richard Southwell, in the 38th of that king, and after regranted to that king on an exchange for other lands in the ſaid year, December 11, given by the king to Chriſt's college, Oxford, and held of that college by ſir Edward Barkham, bart. and after by the Spelmans, his heirs, and now by Philip Caſe, eſq.

The church of Eaſt-Walton is dedicated to St. Mary, and, together with the chapel of St. Andrew, was a rectory formerly: afterwards it was appropriated to Weſtacre priory, and a vicarage was ſettled.

In the chapel, at the eaſt end, lie ſeveral marble grave-ſtones.—On one the arms of the lord Richardſon, or, on a chief, ſable, three lions heads eraſed, of the firſt, impaling Barkham, argent, three pallets, gules, a chevron over all, or.——*In memory of Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Barkham, of Southacre, Gent. wife of the honourable Lord William Richardſon, baron of Cramond, who died September* 28, 1712, *in the* 54*th year of her age.*

On

On another, with the ſaid two impaled coats, an eſcutcheon of pretence, argent, a pale fuſily, ſable, Daniel.

In memory of the Honourable William, Lord Richardſon, who died March 7, 1719.

The arms of Richardſon in a lozenge, with the eſcutcheon of pretence.—*In memory of Elizabeth, ſecond wife of the Honourable William, Lord Richardſon, who died December* 8, 1722, *in the* 37*th year of her age.*

On another, lord Richardſon in the firſt and fourth quarter, and in the ſecond and third, ermine, on a canton, azure, a ſaltire, argent, ſupported by two horſes, ermine;—creſt, an unicorn's head, ermine, iſſuing out of a ducal coronet;—the motto, *Virtute acquiritur honos.*

In memory of the Right Honourable William, Lord Richardſon, baron of Cramond in North Britain, who died July 28, 1735, *in the* 21*ſt year of his age.*

Alſo ſable, five wings in ſaltire, or; creſt, a demi eagle, wings diſplayed.

Hic jacet Robertus Purland, A. M. coll. Geno. et Caij Cantab. olim alumnus mox vicarius de Eaſt Walton, tandem rector de Southacre, vir pietate, pariter ac probitate, et prudentia inſignis; paſtor vigilantiſſimus, amicus fidiſſimus, maritus amantiſſimus, pater mitiſſimus qui poſtquam gregi huic per L. annos, et quod excurrit invigilaverat, tandem obdormivit in Domino Maij 21, 1725.

The title of Richardſon, a very old barony, became extinct in this William lord Richardſon, who was

was educated at the free grammar ſchool of Norwich, under the Rev. Mr. Reddington, a man of great learning, and an excellent ſchool-maſter, in whoſe time the ſchool at Norwich flouriſhed, and was in great repute.

Lord Richardſon's family ſeat was at Weſtacre, and called, as at this day, Weſtacre High-houſe; a name probably given to it from its ſituation. It is at preſent in the poſſeſſion of Anthony Hammond, eſq.

Lord Richardſon left a ſiſter, heireſs to his fortune though not his title, who was married to William Jermy, eſq. ſon of her guardian, counſellor Jermy, of the cloſe in Norwich. She has been dead many years, and left no children.

The preſent vicar is the Rev. Mr. Lemon, preſented by Edward Spelman, eſq in 1755, who built the preſent houſe at Weſtacre called High-houſe, and of whom Philip Caſe, eſq. purchaſed this eſtate at Walton, adjoining to Weſtacre.

WESTACRE. The MANOR and PRIORY. This town is thus called in reſpect of its ſcite on a river, as Southacre, Caſtle, or Eaſtacre, all which towns occur in the Conqueror's book of Doomſday, by the name of Acre, without any adjunct or diſtinction, being all ſeated on the ſame ſtream, or running water, as Acre ſignifies in the Saxon tongue—(ſee Caſtleacre.)

At the ſurvey it was the lordſhip of Ralph de Tony, deſcended from Malahulcius, uncle to Rollo, grandfather to William the Conqueror, and ſon of Roger de Tony, by Alice his wife, daughter of William

liam Fitz Oſborn, one of the Conqueror's lords and generals, and created by him earl of Hereford.

Roger de Tony was ſtandard-bearer of Normandy, and Ralph the ſon inherited the ſame office, was a Norman baron, and attended duke William in the deciſive battle of Haſtings; and for his great ſervices was rewarded with many lordſhips in Berkſhire, Hertfordſhire, Glouceſterſhire, Herefordſhire, and with theſe following in Norfolk:

Necton, Bradenham, Pickenham, Creſſingham Parva, Caldecote, Culeſthorpe and Bodney, in South Greenhoe hundred—Ickburgh, Sturton and Carbrooke, in Grimſhoe hundred—Franſham, Dunham and Godwick, in Launditch hundred—Shingham in Clackcloſe hundred—Walton, Acre, Thorpe, Lynn and Eaſt Winch, in Freebridge hundred——Breccles in Weyland hundred—Wretham Magna and Parva, in Shropham hundred.

Ralph de Tony was the founder of the priory of Weſtacre, dedicated to St. Mary and All Saints, and with his wife, his ſons Roger and Ralph, granted for their own ſouls and their anceſtors, his manor of Weſtacre, with the pariſh church dedicated to All Saints, to Oliver the prieſt, or rector of it, and Walter his ſon; to which deed were witneſſes Gilbert Blond, William de Portis, William de Lira, George Gros, &c. with all the ſoc of Noienton. It was a cell of the priory of Lewes.

On this grant, Oliver and Walter his ſons entered into the order of Cluniac monks of this priory, Not only prieſts, but even biſhops, were in this age married, and no reſtraints in this reſpect were laid upon them. The popes, Boniface I. and Foelix III. were

were ſons of prieſts; and Gelarius was the ſon of a biſhop, &c.

The founder gave them alſo the manor and advowſon of Godwick.

The priory had the patronage of the following churches, or vicarages, their rectories being appropriated to it:—Breccles, Rougham, Weſt Baſham, Marham, Narford, Appleton, Aſhwicken, Leſiate, Wiggenhall St. Mary's, and South Lynn, with two parts of the rectory of Narborough, and the rectory appropriated of Necton,

The churches of Weſtacre and Runhall were wholly appropriated, and ſerved by a curate.

The church of Bodney was in their patronage.

A portion of the rectory of Nacton belonged to them.

The laſt prior of this convent was William Wingfeld, who occurs in 1526, and with fifteen monks of this priory, on Auguſt 31, 1534, ſubſcribed to the king's ſupremacy; and on January 14, in the 29th year of king Henry VIII. with eight of his monks, ſurrendered this priory to the king, who granted to them penſions for life.

The convent boaſted that they had a piece of St. Andrew's finger, ſet in ſilver, which they had pawned for 40l. but the viſitors did not think fit to redeem it at that price.

On the ſeal of the priory was the following legend:

SIGILLVM.

SIGILLVM. CAPITVLI. BEATE. MARIE. ET. OMNIVM. SANCTORVM. DE. WESTACRE.

On the reverſe is a ſmall head couped, and round it

MVNDVS. AGIT. MVNDVM. CONTERE. MUNDVS. ERIS.

Above this head is a ſtar, below it a creſcent. We are inclined to think this head is to repreſent Thomas of Becket, archbiſhop of Canterbury.

The priory church ſtood a little ſpace eaſtward of the preſent farm houſe, and was a large pile, built in a cathedral or conventual manner, as may be traced out from its ſcite and foundation; only part of the tower at the weſt end of the ſouth iſle is now remaining: the cloiſter joined to this ſouth iſle, and there was a door here leading into the weſt end of the ſouth iſle, and another out of it into the church, by the great tower that ſtood between the church and the choir. On the eaſt ſide of the cloiſter was a way leading into the chapter-houſe, the north and ſouth walls of which are partly ſtanding, as is part of the dormitory, which was either over part of the weſt ſide of the cloiſter, or joined to it.

The gate-houſe, leading out of the town into the outward court, or ſcite of the priory, is ſtill ſtanding; over the center of the arch as you enter, are three ſhields carved in ſtone:—Quarterly in the firſt and fourth, gules, a feſs, between ſix croſs croſlets, or, Beauchamp earl of Warwick; in the ſecond and third, checque, or, and azure, a chevron, ermine, Tarquin earl of Warwick; and in an eſcutcheon of pretence, argent, a maunch, gules, lord Tony. On the

the right ſide of this is the ſhield of Tony, and on the left ſide that of Beauchamp; by the firſt ſhield, bearing Tony in an eſcutcheon of pretence, it appears that this gate-houſe, which is of ſtone, was built by Guy de Beauchamp, earl of Warwick, who married Alice, ſiſter and heir to Robert lord Tony, which Guy died in 1315.

King Henry VIII. in his 30th year, March 15, granted to Mary ducheſs of Richmond and Somerſet, for life, the ſcite of this priory, with the manor and appropriated rectory; and ſhe by deed, dated at Kenninghall, confirmed to Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Holland, of Swineſhead in Lincolnſhire, eſq. an annuity of 20l. out of it. King Edward VI. in his 7th year, July 1, granted the reverſion to ſir Thomas Greſham.

After the death of ſir Thomas, it was ſold to Thomas Cecil, afterwards earl of Exeter, who conveyed it to Horatio Palavicini, an Italian, who before his coming into England, had dipped his fingers very deep into the treaſures of the church, as Spelman relates; that is, being treaſurer, or having ſome office in the pope's treaſury at Rome, had robbed it and fled.

Sir Toby, his youngeſt ſon, inherited it, and after many ſuits, &c. with his eldeſt brother Edward, having conſumed his eſtate, ſold it to ſir Edward Barkham, alderman of London, and lord mayor in 1621, created baronet June 28, 1623; from which family it came to Charles Yallop, eſq. ſon and heir of ſir Robert Yallop, by the marriage of Helen, daughter and heireſs of ſir Edward Barkham, bart. whoſe ſon, Edward Spelman, eſq. taking that name from his grand-father, ſir Robert Yallop's marriage with

with Dorothy, daughter of Clement Spelman, eſq. of Gray's-Inn, one of the barons of the exchequer, conveyed it, in 1761, to Richard Hammond, eſq. of South Wootton; and the ruins of this venerable priory, now converted into a farm-houſe, are in the poſſeſſion, with all the abbey lands, of Anthony Hammond, eſq. of High-houſe, nephew of the late Richard Hammond, and eldeſt ſon of Robert Hammond, eſq. late of Swaffham in this county.

The church of Weſtacre is dedicated to All Saints, and built moſtly of flint ſtones, and embattled. It was a rectory, and appropriated to the priory.

The tower is four-ſquare and embattled, has one bell, and both church and chancel are covered with tile.

On the battlements of the church and tower are the arms of ſir Edward Barkham, the firſt baronet of that name, who repaired and ornamented it,—argent, three pallets, gules, over all, a chevron, or; impaling the arms of his lady;—argent, on a pale, ſable, three croſſes pattee, or, in a bordure ingrailed of the ſecond, Crouch.

He had a large manor houſe, or hall, in this pariſh, called High-houſe, which he built.

Sir Edward erected ſeveral ſeats of oak in the church, with a pulpit and reading deſk, wainſcotting the chancel and ſeating it, incloſing the communion table.

His deſcendant, ſir Edward, gave in 1672 a ſilver cup, gilt, weighing ten ounces, with his arms, and a cover of five ounces; a ſilver patten, gilt, of about nineteen

nineteen ounces, with a ſilver flaggon, gilt, about ſixty-one ounces.

CUSTHORPE, was a village in the Saxon age, and at the ſurvey called Culeſtorpa, and Sculatorpa, as ſeated on a ſhoal or ſhallow water: it ſtood on the ſouth ſide of the river Nar, directly oppoſite to Weſtacre, but was in South Greenhoe hundred; the lord Tony being lord of it at the ſurvey, and ſo being as a beruite to Weſtacre, we have here accounted for it.

This was moſt likely given by the lord Tony to his priory on the foundation of it, and at the diſſolution was granted to the ducheſs of Richmond, and ſo came to Edward Spelman, eſq. the late lord, and to Richard Hammond, eſq.

On this part the convent, as we take it, built a large chapel, now in ruins, called Becket's chapel, dedicated to that archbiſhop, where on July 7 was an annual fair: at the north-eaſt point of this chapel was an houſe or cell, wherein a cuſtos and a monk or two dwelt, and performed ſervice; by this, not only pilgrims uſed to paſs to the Lady of Walſingham, but many alſo came on purpoſe to pay their devotion here, where likely there might be ſome particular relict of that archbiſhop.

View and report of the commiſſioners appointed by king Henry VIII. at the diſſolution.

" The vyew of the account of Richard Layton, Doctor of the Lawes, and Archdeacon of Buckingham, Robert Sowthwell, attorney for the augmentations of your grace's moſt noble crowne, and ſir Thomas L'Eſtraunge, knight, commiſſioners by your highnes

higneſs aſſigned for the viewing, valewing and ſelling of all the jewelles, plate, belles, lead, goods and chattels, apperteyning to the late monaſtery of Weſtacre, in the countie of Norfolk, made and declared to ſir Edward North, knight, chancellor of the court of Augmentations of the revennues of the kinge's crowne, and others the counſail of the ſayd court, upon dyverſe perticuler bookes thereof, to them ſhewed and delyvered the xiiiith day of November, in the xxxvith yere of the reigne of our ſoveraigne Lord King Henry the Eighth.

Juels and plate.

One lyttle croſſe plated with ſylver, two challeſſes, one lyttle ſalt with the cover, parcell gilt, and xi ſylver ſpones, all valewed by indifferent perſones, at vil. xvs. iiiid. and ſold by the ſayd commiſſioners, to Richard Sturges, for viiil. xvs.

Belles VI.

Weying MV. DCCC lb. 1 quarter, every hundreth valewed at xxis. amounten to the ſome of — — — lxil. iiis. vid.

Lead in ſowes, CCCCXL.

Weying CXXXVI ffooders and a half, every ffooder valued at iiiil. amounten to — CLXVIL.

Ornaments of the church of the monaſtery.

Vieved and pryſed by indifferent p'ſones byn ſolde by the ſayd commiſſioners, for — xxxil. vid.

Goodes, cattalle and other movables.

Vieved and pryſed by indifferent p'ſones at CCXIL. xviis. iiid. and ſold by the ſayd commiſſioners nere

for the ſame and xxii l. over in gayn, which in the hoole amounteth to the ſome of ccxxxiii l. xvii s. 3d.

Iron, glaſſe, ſtone, and diverſe old buildings.

Sold by the ſayd commiſſioners to dyverſe and ſondrye p'ſones, as by a perticular booke of the ſame, may appeare, for — lxvii l. 11s. vid.

Debts owing to the ſayde late monaſtery.

Thomas Wingfeld, as by his reconings apper-eth — — — — clxviii l.

The ſame Thomas for xl ſhepe to him delivered by the late prior at xvi d. the pece, - liii s. iiii d.

William Alyſon of Cambridge, goldſmith, for plate to him ſold over and beſides xv l. to him remitted by the late prior, — — xiiii l.

William Calybutte, for ſix ewers to him ſold by the ſayd late pryor, to be paid at Midſomer next xl.

Redye Monye receyved.

Of the aforeſyd Thomas Wingffeld, as by his ſayd reconing appereth — — clx l.

Of ſir Thomas le Straunge, knight, as by his reconing appereth —— vii l. xv s. vid.

Of dyverſe tenants for the arreragies of their rents and fermes due at Mighelmas and Chriſtmas laſt, viii l. xv s.

Paid to

Dyverſe p'ſones for ſundrie ſomes of monye to them due by the late prior, for wagies and debts, as by a book of the particulers of the ſame doth appere — — lvl. xix s. vii d. *ob.*

Dyverſe other perſons for taking downe of the belles and wayeing of the ſame, plucking downe of the

the leade melting and weyng of the ſame, and deſaſyng, and pulling downe of the church dortre and other howſes, as by the boke appereth xxiiii l. xiii s.

The commiſſioners for their coſtes and expenſes ryding from London to the ſayd late monaſtery, and there being with dyverſe with them for the ſuppreſſing, diſſolving, and defaſyng of the ſame by five weekes, and for their coſtes and expences in returning to London agayn, — xxviii l. xiiii s. vii d.

And ſo Remayneth in

Belles unſold remaying there in the hands of Richard Sturges, ſermour to the king's majeſtie's uſe — — — lxi l. iii s. vii d.

Lead unſold, likewyſe remayning in the hands of the ſayd Richard Sturges, to his highneſs uſe, dcxlvi l,

Ornaments of the church delivered by the ſayde commiſſioners to the majeſt. owne handes, at Whitehall in London, amounting to the ſome of - ix l.

Debt owing to the late monaſtery as afore appereth xiiii l. xiii s. iiii d.

Monye owing for part of the goodes, catalles, and other moveables ſolde as a ſpecialtie with the ſayd commiſſioners remayning appereth — cxx l.

Redye monye in the handes of the ſaid Rd. Layton — — cclxxix l. xiii s. xi d.

WINCH, EAST. In the book of Doomſday it is called Winic, from Win, which in the Britiſh language ſignifies water, and Ic or Iſe, a general name in theſe parts for any ſtream or rivulet, the inhabitants of this part of the heptarchy or Eaſt Angles, being called by the Romans the Iceni; alſo Wininc, as ſeated in a weſt meadow.

The principal lordſhip at the ſurvey was in the crown. Godric farmed it, or had the care of it for the king.

In king Edward's time it was a beruite to Sporle, a conſiderable lordſhip belonging to the crown, in the hundred of South Greenhoe.

GRANCOURT'S MANOR. This manor, with Sporle, which was royal demeſne, was given (as ſome ſay) by king Edward to Ralph Waker, or Gauder, earl of Norfolk, but Dugdale more truly ſuppoſes him to be of Britanny in France, and to be made earl by the Conqueror, and was taken as a beruite or lordſhip of Sporle.

On his rebellion, it is certain, if he ever was in poſſeſſion of it, (which does not clearly appear) it was forfeited to the Conqueror, and after the making the book of Doomſday, was granted by the Conqueror to Alan, ſon of Flaald.

The firſt that we meet with upon record to be lord after this, is ſir Ralph L'Eſtrange, who lived in the reign of Henry II. and gave the rectory of this church to the priory of Carrowe by Norwich, which was afterwards appropriated to that houſe by Robert Sherwing, biſhop of Norwich.

Sir William de Calthorpe, who married Cecilia, daughter of Philip de Burnham, ſiſter and coheir of William de Burnham, had a right herein; and in the 45th of Henry III. they granted it by fine to William de Grancourt, and his heirs, to be held of them; and Walter de Grancourt, ſon of William, was lord in the 14th of Edward I.

William

William Howard purchaſed it of Thomas de Grancourt in the 26th of Edward I.

This was ſir William Howard, the famous judge, founder of the noble family of the Howards, anceſtor to the dukes of Norfolk, &c. It appears that he reſided here in the 34th of the aforeſaid king, from the accounts of the chamberlains of Lynn, in the ſaid year, when ſeveral preſents were ſent to him and his lady from the corporation, for his good ſervices, viz.

Item in uno carcos. bovis miſſo D'ne Alice Howard uſq; Wynch vi *ſol.*——*It. in vino p. duas vices miſſ. D'no Willo. Howard cum duobus carcos. vitul. et uno ſcuto apri.* xiii *ſol.* viiid.——*It. in duob; ſalmon. miſſ. D'no. Willo. Howard vigil. paſche* xi *ſol.*

This ſir William was found to hold it by the fourth part of a fee, of Richard earl of Arundel.

He was an eminent lawyer, and before he was a judge, a counſellor retained by that corporation, with an annual penſion.

In the 5th of Edward III. ſir John Howard, ſen. was found to hold of Hamon L'Eſtrange the manor of Eaſt Winch.

Sir Roger Langley, bart. was lord of this manor in the year 1716, and it is now in the family and heirs of ſir John Tyrrell, bart. of Eſſex.

PENTNEY PRIORY MANOR. Roger Bigot had the grant of a lordſhip in this village from the Conqueror.

This manor was granted to the prior of Pentney in the year 1250.

In 1428, the temporalities of this convent were valued at 8l. 18s. 2d.½ per ann. King Henry VIII. at the diſſolution, granted it, February 14, in his 29th year, for a certain term of years, to Thomas earl of Rutland, and John Dethick, gent. farmed it of the ſaid earl at 10l. 2s. 5d. per ann. King Edward VI. in his 4th year, April 11, gave it to the ſee of Norwich, and it is held at this time, by leaſe, of that biſhop.

It is ſaid to be called in the grant of king Edward VI. Grancourt's manor, lately belonging to the priory of Pentney, but without any reaſon, as far as we have ſeen, and was leaſed to queen Elizabeth in 1588, for eighty years, by Dr. Scambler, biſhop of Norwich, at 10l. 7s. 6d. per ann.

The church is dedicated to All Saints.

In the chancel eaſt window are the arms of Vere, earl of Oxford, of Howard, Vere and Howard impaled, alſo p. pale, or, and gules, a lion paſſant, argent, Plaiz.

Againſt the north wall is a mural monument of marble, with the arms of Barnes, argent, two bars, counterembattled ſable, in chief, three pellets.

Here lyeth under the foot of this wall, the body of Owen Barns, Gent. third ſon of William Barns, the elder, of this place, eſq. after he had lived the ſpace of 52 years, changed this life for a better, 1670.

Quis ſim, noſce cujus caro putrida, nil niſi vermis,
Quiſquis es, hoc de me ſit tibi ſcire ſatis.

On

On the north ſide of this chancel is the old chapel and burial place of the Howards, dedicated to St. Mary, as appears from the will of ſir Robert Howard, who died in 1388, and was here buried, according to his deſire. In Weaver's time, his enarched monument againſt the ſouth wall of the ſaid chapel, with ſome of the eſcutcheons wherewith it was ornamented, were to be diſtinguiſhed, and this part of the epitaph remained,

— — *a'iab; Dni. Robti. Howard, et Margerete, uxoris ſue,*

But this part of the epitaph, with the ſhields and arms, is defaced, and great part of the monument itſelf deſtroyed many years paſt; alſo the two graveſtones mentioned by him, and the effigies of one of the Howard family in the eaſt window, (the founder of the chapel) have met with the ſame fate.

This chapel, in Weaver's time, was much defaced, the lead that covered it being taken off and ſold, but was then repairing by Thomas Howard, earl of Arundel and Surry, and at this time is in a worſe ſtate than in Weaver's.

Sir Robert Howard abovementioned married Margaret, daughter and coheir of Robert lord Scales, who was buried by her huſband: they reſided, and died in this town, and it is probable that this chapel was erected by ſir William Howard, the judge, who (as we have obſerved) was lord, and reſided here with his family, where it is likely he and others of the family were interred

On the weſt wall of this chapel is a neat monument of marble, with the arms of Barnes, impaling

Shepherd, argent, on a chief, gules, three Daniſh hatchets, or; and Barnes impaling Hovell, ſable, a creſcent, or.

Near unto this place lyeth the body of William Barns, eſq. ſon of Edward Barns, of Soham in Cambridgeſhire, Eſq. who firſt married Thomaſine, daughter of Richard Hovell, of Hillington, eſq. by whom he had five daughters, after whoſe death he took to wife Thomaſine, the daughter of Owen Shepherd, of Kirby in this county, Eſq. and (removed his ſeat to this place) had by her five ſons and eight daughters, and did for many years with great prudence and fidelity, ſerve his king and country, in the office of juſtice of the peace; at length, ſuch was the iniquity of the times, that loyalty was eſteemed a crime, when not allurements, or threats from him who uſurped the higheſt power, could ſeduce him from his conſtant adherence to his abandoned prince, and the perſecuted church of England; he retired to a private life, devoting himſelf wholly to the ſervice of God and religion, and peaceably departed hence, in the 77th year of his age, 1657, expecting a joyful reſurrection. To whoſe memory, Frances Stanton, his ſecond daughter, out of her tender love and dutiful affection, erected this monument. Semper Idem.

The church was anciently a rectory. The Rev. Charles Phelps is the preſent vicar.

Eaſt Winch is about two miles eaſt of Middleton and five from Lynn.

WINCH, WEST. West Winch Manor. Rainald, ſon of Ivo, held the chief lordſhip of this town at the time of the grand ſurvey, by a grant from the Conqueror, which Godwin, a freeman, earl of Kent, and father of king Harold, held in the reign of the Confeſſor.

In

In the 6th of Henry VIII. ſir Robert Southwell was found to die ſeiſed of this manor, which extended into Hardwick, Setchy, and South Lynn, held of the honour of Clare, and ten meſſuages, five hundred acres of land, forty of meadow, one hundred of paſture, ſixty of wood, and ten ſhillings rent; and left it to his couſin and heir Richard, ſon of Francis, brother of ſir Robert: but in Trinity term, in the 29th of Henry VIII. Richard Southwell, eſq. conveyed it to William Coningſby, eſq. and it came after that to ſir Francis Gawdy, and ſo to the earl of Warwick, and was bought of him, in the 10th of James I. by John Pell, Gent.

On the 22d of September, in the 18th of king James I. the jury find that Richard Shebbs, of Sedgeford in Norfolk, eſq. was poſſeſſed of this manor of Weſt Winch, called Fincham's, and that he had enfeoffed therein ſir Philip Wodehouſe, bart, Edward Paſton, eſq. &c. by deed dated the 10th of June, in the 12th of the ſaid king, to the uſe of himſelf for life, remainder to William Yelverton, jun. (ſon of ſir William, and Dionyſia his wife, eldeſt daughter of the ſaid Richard) and on Urſula his intended wife, daughter of ſir Thomas Richardſon, &c. and was after in the Pells.

From the family of the Pells it came to the Walpoles, and the earl of Orford is the preſent lord.

Weſt Winch is ſituated about two miles ſouth of Lynn, on the London road and turnpike.

WOLFERTON. This town is not named in the book of Doomſday, being a hamlet to the town of Babingley.

The

The prior of Shouldham had lands in this town.

On the diſſolution of the priory, this was granted May 7, anno 36th of Henry VIII. to William Cobbe, eſq. to be held by the 20th part of a fee; from the Cobbes it came, with Sandringham, to the Hoſtes, and ſo to Henry Corniſh Henley, eſq.

The church is dedicated to St. Peter, and is a rectory. The Rev. Henry Crowe is the preſent rector, preſented by the late Henry Corniſh Henley, eſq. of Sandringham.

There is a harbour at Wolferton for ſmall veſſels, which annually bring coals here in the ſummer.

An extenſive brick wall, to keep out the ſea from the marſhes, was built by major Hoſte of Sandringham, at the expence of 1800l. but being ill conſtructed, has not prevented the ſea from breaking over it, and frequently overflowing the neighbouring lands, to the great loſs of the late proprietor Henry Corniſh Henley, eſq. and to the preſent Mrs. Henley, his relict, who has expended ſince his deceaſe conſiderable ſums towards the repair of the breaches made in the ſea banks.

Wolferton lies upon a point of the Lynn channel, about ſeven miles north-eaſt of Lynn.

WOOTTON NORTH. This and South Wootton, made at the ſurvey one town, and belonged to one lord.

This town in the reign of queen Elizabeth was in the duke of Norfolk.

Theſe

Theſe two towns of North and South Wootton lie upon the Lynn channel, about three and four miles diſtant from Lynn, on the left of the road to Caſtle-Riſing; South Wootton, or what is called Wootton Gap, is about a mile from the toll-gate at Gaywood.

WINDHAM PRIORY MANOR took its riſe from lands granted by the Albinis to the priory of Windham, who in the reign of Edward I. claimed free warren. In the 2d of Edward II. the priory purchaſed thirty-ſix acres of land, three of meadow, ſix ſhillings rent per ann. and twenty-ſix acres of marſh, ſo that their temporalities were valued at 4l. 8s. 4d. per ann. in 1428; and the prior held in Wootton and Congham the fortieth part of a fee of the earl of Arundel.

After the diſſolution it was granted, February 12, in the 5th of Elizabeth, with the impropriate rectory and advowſon of the vicarage, to Thomas duke of Norfolk, and afterwards to Henry Howard, earl of Northampton, and paſſed as in Riſing, to the earls of Berkſhire, who were lords and patrons; and now is in the earl of Suffolk.

The church is dedicated to All Saints, and was formerly a rectory.

Thomas de Blundevile, biſhop of Norwich, appropriated it, and a vicarage was ſettled.

In a wood near Wootton Gap is a ſpring called Riffley Spring, a place of great reſort during the ſummer ſeaſon to the inhabitants of Lynn, who every Sunday meet in parties to drink tea and paſs the afternoon there. There is a pedeſtal or obeliſk erected

erected in this wood, called Riffley Wood, near the ſpring.

This wood is about a mile and a half from the toll-gate at Gaywood towards South Wootton, as by menſuration of the wheel of the diſtances from Lynn to Snettiſham, which began at Snettiſham dial, and was taken through Anmer, Caſtleacre, Swaffham, Downham and Lynn, to Snettiſham again: the diſtances from Lynn to Snettiſham have been mentioned in the account of Sandringham, the other diſtances taken at the ſame time were as follows.

	Miles
From Snettiſham through Shernbourne to Anmer well	5
To the guide-poſt on Pedder's road	1
Along Pedder's road to Harpley-dam's ſhepherd's houſe	2
Along the ſame road to the 30 mile-ſtone from Norwich to Lynn	4
Along the ſame to Caſtleacre river	3
To Swaffham croſs	4
Road to Dowham, to Devil's Ditch	4
To Fincham fall-gate	4
To Stradſet fall-gate	1
To the crown at Downham	4
To Winbotſham	1
To oppoſite Stow hall	2
To Setchy toll-gate	3
To South-gate and Lynn croſs	5
Total	43

WOOTON SOUTH. At the time of the ſurvey, it appears that this town, and that of North Wootton

Wootton, as we have obſerved before, was but one lordſhip and one town.

In the 7th year of Henry VIII. ſir William Capel, knt. lord mayor of London in 1503, died ſeiſed of this lordſhip, held of the caſtle of Riſing; and by his laſt will and teſtament, gives this and all other his manors in Norfolk, for life, to Margaret his wife, remainder to his ſon and heir, ſir Giles.

In the 44th of queen Elizabeth. it was held by Thomas Winde, gent. of Arthur Capel, eſq.

The laſt of this family was the late William Winde, eſq. who for many years attended on the princeſs Sophia, mother to king George I. and on her death came into England, and was a commiſſioner of the ſalt duties.

About the year 1700, it was poſſeſſed by Mr. Harriot, goldſmith, in Fleet-ſtreet, London, and afterwards by his ſon, Dr. Harriot, L. L. D. and in 1762 the widow Harriot poſſeſſed it.

Anthony Hammond, eſq. who married the ſiſter of ſir Robert Walpole, had a ſeat and a conſiderable eſtate in this pariſh. The family houſe was pulled down by his eldeſt ſon, the late Richard Hammond, eſq. on his removing to High Houſe, Weſtacre, an eſtate he purchaſed of the late Edward Spelman, eſq.

Howard's Manor. Sir Robert Howard had poſſeſſion of this manor in the reign of Richard II. and gave his name to the manor.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary.

FREEBRIDGE MARSHLAND contains:

CLENCHWARTON, was originally divided into two different towns, North and South Clenchwarton.

It is one of the firſt pariſhes over the river, weſt of Lynn, in Marſhland, a peninſula almoſt ſurrounded with navigable rivers and an arm of the ſea, being a low, marſhy, little tract, as the name implies, every where interſected with ditches and drains to draw off the waters, which have over them no leſs than one hundred and eleven bridges and upwards, and containing about thirty thouſand acres of land. The ſoil is exceeding rich and fertile, but the country and roads with great difficulty paſſable in the winter ſeaſon, and the water extremely bad. From Lynn ferry, through Clenchwarton and Terrington, to the Croſs-Key Waſhes, or what is called the *Metaris Æſtuarium*, into Lincolnſhire, is a diſtance of about ſeven miles: the waſh over to the Lincolnſhire ſide is about two miles.

The Earl of Clare's Manor, was formerly in the Veres, earls of Oxford, afterwards in the Tyndals, Southwells, and Calthorpes.

The prior of Walſingham had alſo a manor, or conſiderable eſtate here, of the honour of Clare.

The prior of Shouldham had alſo a manor held of the ſaid honour of Clare.

The prior of Norwich had alſo temporalities, and the prior of Caſtleacre had poſſeſſions.

Many

Many other priories had temporalities in this pariſh, and may families had rights extending into it. It is now in the hands of different proprietors.

The church of Clenchwarton is dedicated to St. Margaret; it conſiſts of a ſingle iſle, or a nave, a chancel covered with lead, and has a ſquare tower, with four bells.

In the chancel is a grave-ſtone—*In memory of Thomas Triſe, Alderman of Newark in Nottinghamſhire, who died in this town, May* 19, 1647.

On another—*Hic jacet (una cum quinq; ipſius liberis, patre ſuperſtite, defunctis) venerabilis vir Marcus Forſter, A. M. hujus eccleſiæ rector, qui cum annos quadraginta in agro Domini ſtrenue laboraſſet ad mercedem recipiendam in cæleſtem paradiſum evocatus, obijt die Januarij ultimo, A. D.* 1719, *ætatis ſuæ* 70.

Alſo one—*In memory of Roger Spenſley, Gent. bur.* 16, *March*, 1650, *aged* 39.

On the wood work of the church are the arms of Scales and Inglethorpe.

On a monument in the church-yard—*Maria chariſſima conjux Rici. Triſe Generoſi hic ſita eſt Oct.* 24, *A. D.* 1660, *ætat. ſuæ* 28.

Moribus inſignis, forma, pietate, pudore,
Exemplum ſexus, atq; corona viri.

Nec pudendis fuit natalibus, filia nempe unica Henri. Williamſon et Marthæ, uxoris ſuæ, quorum omnium reliquias, hic tumulus habet. On it, ermine, on a chevron ſable, a lion rampant, or. on a chief, gules, three mullets

mullets of the firſt Triſe, impaling argent, on a chevron ingrailed, azure, between three trefoils ſlipped, ſable, as many creſcents, or, Williamſon.

EMNETH, or ENEMETH, ſo called as lying in the meads or meadows, is an hamlet in the pariſh of Elm in Cambridgeſhire, and the iſle of Ely; but this hamlet being in Freebridge hundred and in the county of Norfolk, it is neceſſary to mention it here.

HACKBEACH MANOR: In the 5th of king John it appears that there was a place in the aforeſaid hamlet called Hagebech, which gave name to a family then lords of it.

It continued in this family till the reign of Richard II.

But this lordſhip, on the death of the laſt ſir Robert Hackbech, in king Henry VI.'s time, ſeems to have come to ſir Andrew Ogard, knt. who was found to die poſſeſſed of it, Buckenham caſtle, &c. in the 33d of that king.

Sir Andrew Ogard was a famous general in the wars of France, baron of Denvale, of Beaufoe, Caux, lord of the caſtle of Favillers in Anjou, of the caſtle of Mervyle, by St. Savory, of Yffe, by Towke in France, and had to the value of 1000l. per ann. in lands, &c. and in a cheſt of French gold, at the houſe of Robert Whitingham, about ſeven thouſand marks of Engliſh: he married Margaret, only daugh- of ſir John Cliſton of Buckenham caſtle.

Afterwards it came to the family of Hewar, and on an inquiſition taken September 2, 1579, Thomas Hewer, eſq. was found to die ſeiſed of this manor

manor on May 15 in the ſaid year; which extended itſelf into Walſoken, Upwell and Outwell, held of Philip earl of Arundel, of his manor of Weſt Walton in ſoccage, and the rent of 5l. 5s. 6d. *ob.* per ann. and of eighty-ſeven acres of land, meadow and paſture, held of the king, &c. in ſoccage, and the rent of 44s. 6d. per ann. by Winefred his wife, daughter of John Repps, eſq. of Weſt Walton, relict of William Ogard eſq. of Emneth, he had ſir Thomas Hewar. This lordſhip came to the Hewars on the marriage of Ogard's widow: ſir Andrew Ogard abovementioned, left at his death Henry Ogard, his ſon and heir, aged four years; and Andrew Ogard, eſq. and George and Henry, ſons of Andrew, were feoffees to ſir Andrew aforeſaid; from ſome of theſe this manor paſſed and came to William Ogard, eſq.

Sir Thomas Hewar, by his will dated January 21, in the 5th of king Charles I. left it to his nephew, Lawrence Oxburgh, (and died May 15, in the 6th of that king) who was ſecond ſon of Thomas Oxburgh, (by Etheldreda his wife) who was the ſon of Thomas Oxburgh, who died in 1628, and Thomaſine his wife, ſiſter of ſir Thomas Hewar.

In this family it remained till Hewar Oxburgh, eſq. ſold the manor-houſe to ſir Thomas Peyton, bart. of Hackbeach-hall, and his ſon conveyed the manor to the ſaid ſir Thomas. On his deceaſe it came to Henry Daſhwood, eſq. his nephew, who took the name of Peyton, according to the will of ſir Thomas, and has ſince been created a baronet.

BELLASIS, or INGALDESTHORPE'S MANOR. The ancient family of Ingaldeſthorpe held a manor here of the prior of Lewes. In the 16th of Edward I.

Thomas ſon of John de Ingaldeſthorpe, ſettled the manor of Bellaſis, in Emneth, on Thomas biſhop of Rocheſter, for life, which Thomas was of the name and family.

In the 20th of Henry VII. a fine was levied betwen ſir James Hobart, ſir Richard Southwell, ſir Henry Ogard, knights, and Richard Braunche, eſq.

BISHOP of ELY'S MANOR. The manor of Elm belonged to the ſee of Ely, but the manor which the biſhop held in this hamlet of Emneth, was that which belonged to his capital manor of Weſt Walton.

To this hamlet belongs a large chapel, larger than moſt churches, having a nave, north and ſouth iſle, and a chancel, dedicated to St. Edmund the King and Martyr.

Elm is the mother church, has a rector and a vicar, both in the patronage of the ſee of Ely; the rectory is a ſinecure.

At the eaſt end of the ſouth iſle of this chapel of Emneth, incloſed with iron rails, is a ſumptuous monument erected altarwiſe, on which lie the effigies of ſir Thomas Hewar and his lady, at full length, and at their feet that of a child, his ſon, who died young. Over this monument is a canopy of marble, &c. ſupported by marble pillars.

M. S. Thomas, Hewar, eques, auratus, vir bonis et honeſtis moribus præditus, de patria et principe optime meritas, hoc juxta parentes ſuos hic ſepultos monumentum mortis ſuæ non immemor ſibi propoſuit.

Daxit

Duxit in uxorem Emmam Willi. Laurence, de villa Sti. Ivonis in agro Huntingdonienſi, armigi. filiam, ſpectatæ fidei et vitæ integerrimæ fœminam, de qua unicum filium Thomam teneris annis ablatum ſuſcitavit.

Fixa fides cælo, diſperſaq; fama per orbem,
Te prohibent Hewar, te moriente mori.

In the ſaid chapel, againſt the wall, is a neat mural monument of marble, on the ſummit of it is Hewar, quartering as above, and *Ano. Dni.* 1586; below that, *Altera pars noſtri cœli, pars altera terræ.*

Alſo theſe ſhields, Hewar with his quarterings, impaling Repps and Smith, quarterly, as in Weſt Walton; Hewar, &c. impaling argent, two bendlets, ſable,—Kay.

Armiger en Thomas Hewar, Wineſredaq; conjux
Armigeri fælix Johannis filia Repſi,
Quæ prius inſigni Gulielmo nupſit Ogardo,
Lumine nunc caſſi tumulo clauduntur in iſto.
Hæc Thomam, Thoma, Thomaſina, ac Elizabetha
Fecerat hac triplici gaudentem prole maritum
Margeriam Thomas ducebat poſt Wineſredam,
Uxorem ſatis extinctam, quæ fuit orta
Edvardi patris generoſo ſanguine Kaij,
Sed Gulielmi erat hæc primo fidiſſima conjux,
Laurentini armegeri, ſic bis fuit orba marito.

Wineſreda obt. 9 *Feb. Ao. Dni.* 1576, *ao. etat. ſuæ* 47, *Thomas obt.* 12, *Martij A. D.* 1585, *ao. ætat. ſua* 66.

The preſent rector is the Rev. Henry Southwell, D. D.

ISLINGTON. This village is wrote in Doomſday-book, Iſlingetuna, Eſingatuna, Iſingetuna, and derives its name from its ſcite, near to the river Ouſe, (called by the Britons Iſſe, or Iſe) on meadows.

SCALES MANOR. This manor derived its name from the great lord Scales of Middleton, one of the moſt antient and powerful barons in the county of Norfolk, in former reigns.

This noble family lived for many generations in great ſplendor and power at the caſtle of Middleton near Lynn, holding under different princes the higheſt offices of ſtate. Of this caſtle ſome ruins are ſtill to be ſeen, a plate of which is given in this hiſtory.

The gate-houſe or tower remains pretty perfect, and appears to have been the grand entrance into a ſpacious ſquare or quadrangle, moated round according to the taſte prevailing in times of antiquity, as may be ſeen at this day at the ſeat of ſir Richard Bedingfield, bart. at Oxburgh near Stoke; ſo that every great building in thoſe early ages ſeems to have been deſigned as much for defence, and to command and controul the country round it, as for magnificence and grandeur. Few of our modern buildings come up to theſe noble reliques of antiquity: they convey to us no ideas but what luxury inſpires; beſpeak no family; impreſs no awe upon the mind; nor bring back to our remembrance the dignity and power of the founder. Houghton-hall alone in this county of Norfolk, ſtands unrivalled in this particular, and is an exception to the general rule. Houghton ſtrikes the eye with every idea that magnificence can inſpire, and fills the mind at one view

view with the ſtrongeſt images of grandeur, power and wealth, that could poſſibly have diſtinguiſhed the illuſtrious founder.

This ſuperb palace will carry down to poſterity a memorial of ſir Robert Walpole, that can be exceeded only by the immortal page of an hiſtorian, who ſhall record hereafter with truth and impartiality, the greateſt actions of the greateſt miniſters!

The gate or tower of the caſtle of Middleton ſtill remaining, is eighteen yards in height, and is ornamented with turrets about ſeventeen yards long and nine in breadth: over the arch is the ſhield of Scales; and this caſtle was probably built by Thomas lord Scales in the reign of Henry VI. The inſide of it is much decayed: the area or quadrangle of the court within is about eighty-four paces long, and forty-ſix broad.

John Devereux, conſtable of Dover caſtle, and keeper of the Cinque Ports, on the 5th of January, in the 12th of Richard II. received of William Tydeman, receiver of the caſtle, twenty-five ſhillings of the ward of Robert de Scales, in this town, Middleton, Howe, &c. for two knights fees and an half; and for default of payment for twenty-eight day, ſeventy ſhillings at 2s. 6d. per day: and in the 4th of Henry VI. Robert lord Scale was found to have died ſeiſed of it, leaving Robert his ſon and heir, aged ſix years; and the ſaid Robert dying unmarried it came to his brother, Thomas lord Scales, and by his only daughter and heir, Elizabeth, to Anthony Woodville, (by marriage) earl Rivers, and lord Scales; and having no iſſue, to the Oxford family, (John de Vere, earl of Oxford) and to the family of Tyndale, on the acceſſion of

king Henry VII. to the crown, as heirs to the late lady Elizabeth Scales, as may be ſeen in Middleton: but Richard III. on the attainder of Anthony lord Scales, &c. aforeſaid, had granted it to his great favourite, John duke of Norfolk, in his 2d year, which grant was then ſet aſide, that duke being attainted.

In the 3d and 4th of Philip and Mary, John Tyndale had licence to alienate it to William Tyndale and his heirs; afterwards it came to the Southwells.

Francis Southwell and Barbara his wife, held in the 9th of queen Elizabeth, the manor of Iſlington, forty meſſuages, twenty cottages, two hundred acres of land, three hundred acres of paſture, one hundred of meadow, ten acres of wood, with the appurtenances in this town, Clenchwarton, and Tilney, *in capite*; and died the 10th of November, in the 24th of Elizabeth.

Miles Southwell, eſq. held the ſame in the 30th of the ſaid reign, in which year, about Eaſter, it was conveyed by him to ſir John Willoughby, knt. of Riſley in Derbyſhire, anceſtor to the preſent lord Middleton; which Miles was ſon of Francis Southwell, eſq. aforeſaid, aged eighteen on his father's death, and had livery of it in or about the 27th of Elizabeth.

Sir John Willoughby was ſon of ſir George Willoughby, and Elizabeth his wife, daughter and heir of Richard Neale, of Wiggenhall St. Mary Magdalen; which ſir George died January 10, 1598, aged 80, and Elizabeth his lady, Auguſt 24, 1592, aged 76. Sir John, by Frances his wife, daugher and heir

heir of Henry Hawes, of Hilgay in Norfolk, had ſir Henry Willoughby, who alienated it by licence November 19, in the 9th of king James I. to William Guybon, eſq. and was held by ſir Francis Guybon in 1700, whoſe ſon and heir, William Guybon, eſq. of Thurſford in Norfolk, conveyed it to Anthony Dixon, and Joſeph Dixon gave it to his nephew, Thomas Dixon, eſq. the preſent lord, 1778.

INGALDESTHORPE'S MANOR. John de Ingaldeſthorpe was lord in the 3d year of king Edward I. and in the 11th of that king died ſeiſed of it, and ſeveral rents of aſſize.

In the 1ſt year of king Edward III. Thomas de Ingaldeſthorpe held it by the third part of a fee, as of the honor of Hawley, and the ſervice of 40d. per ann. to Dover caſtle.

On the inquiſition after his death, in the ſecond year of the ſaid king, he is ſaid to have held it in *capite* of the ſaid honour, and it extended into Tilney and Clenchwarton.

In the 8th of that king, John his ſon and heir paid 33s. 4d. relief, for this manor.

Sir Edmund de Ingaldeſthorpe was the laſt heir male of this family, and dying in or about 1456, left one daughter and heir, Iſabel, married to John Neville, marquis Montacute, by whom ſhe had two ſons, John who died young, and George Neville duke of Bedford, who dying without iſſue, the eſtate of the Ingaldeſthorpes was divided amongſt his five ſiſters and coheirs.

Bishop of Ely's Manor. Saint Audry, or Ethelreda, the monaſtery of Ely, had lands here.

In the reign of queen Elizabeth, it was by act of parliament conveyed to the crown, and in the 21ſt of James I. was part of the poſſeſſions of Charles, prince of Wales.

Earl of Clare's Manor. This lordſhip was in Walter Giffard, firſt earl of Buckingham. Walter the ſecond of that name, earl of Buckingham, was lord in the reign of king Stephen, and on his founding the abbey of Nutley in Buckinghamſhire, gave a portion of tithe, belonging to his lordſhip here and in Tilney, to that houſe, as he did likewiſe at Middleton; and from this earl, by the marriage of a daughter, (as is ſaid) it came to the earl of Clare.

Lord Bardolf's Manor. The chief lordſhip was held by the lord Scales, but the principal tenures and lands belonging to it lay in Tilney, and not in Iſlington, and moſtly in the lord Bardolf's manor of Tilney, from whom it took its name.

Richmond's Fee. Alan, earl of Richmond, had lands here at the time of the conqueſt.

The biſhop of Baieux (Odo) had this on the forfeiture (rebellion) of Ralph earl of Norfolk, and Alan, the earl, had half of it for his part.

This lordſhip alſo extended into Tilney. John, ſon of Wygenhale, John Hackbech, and their tenants, held three parts of a fee here, in Tilney and Wiggenhall, of the honour of Richmond, in Henry III.'s reign; and in that of king Edward III. Thomas Fitz-George, John de Wigenhale, the abbot of Dereham,

Dereham, and the prior of Weſtacre, held the fourth part of a fee in the aforeſaid towns and South Lynn, of Ralph Neville. John duke of Bedford died ſeized of it *in capite*, in the 14th of Henry VI. held by George lord Latimer, as part of Richmond honour,

ABBOT of BURY'S, and BROUGHTON'S MANOR. The abbot of Bury, or St. Edmund, had a lordſhip here before the reign of the Confeſſor.

Sampſon, abbot of Bury, on the foundation of the hoſpital of St. Saviour's, without the town of Bury, in the reign of Henry II. gave to that hoſpital two parts of the tithes of his lordſhip here and in Tilney; and in the 9th of Edward I. John, abbot of Bury, demiſed to William de Saham, clerk, for life, one meſſuage, with the demeſne lands, meadow and paſture, a windmill, ſuit of the abbot's tenants to it; ſaving to the abbot, the homages, rents, ſervices, of his free men and villians, paying 20l. ſterling.—Witneſſes, ſir Ralph de Alneto, ſir William de Walpole, ſir Robert de Northwold, ſir William de Terrington, ſir Philip de Fenne, ſir Ralph de Wirham, ſir Adam de Talbot, knights, Robert Ruſſell, William de Bradenham, James de Fenne, Alexander de Walpole, &c.——And in the regiſter of the Sacriſt it is obſerved, that the monks had no deeds, or memorandum, of the time or perſon who gave this lordſhip.

In the 17th of Edward IV. John Broughton, eſq. and Ann his wife, conveyed in truſt to Thomas biſhop of Lincoln, John biſhop of Rocheſter, and Horwode, clerk of the privy-ſeal, this lordſhip here and in Tilney, with the ferry between Old and New Lynn, and the ſaid Anne died ſeiſed of it anno 20, then a widow; and in the 5th of Henry VII. John Broughton died ſeiſed, held of the abbot of Bury.

On the feaſt of St. Peter and St. Paul, anno 21ſt of Henry VIII. John, ſon of John Broughton, eſq. dying a minor, Catherine and Ann, his ſiſters, had livery of it, with Saxlingham manor in Norfolk.

Ann, their mother, remarried ſir John Ruſſell; and Thomas Strange, eſq. by the marriage of Ann, one of the ſiſters, had a moiety of it.

In the 30th of Henry VIII. Sir Walter Hobart demiſed it to Humphry Carvile, gent. for ten years, paying 16l. per ann. and John Hobart had an intereſt in it, anno 32d of Elizabeth. After this it was in the Thurſtons, and John Thurſton, eſq. of Hoxne in Suffolk, conveyed it to ſir Richard Brown, bart. who died ſeiſed of it, and in that family it remains, 1778.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary, has a nave, a croſs iſle and a chancel covered with reed; the tower is four-ſquare, and ſtands at the ſouth part of the church, and thro' it is a paſſage into the church, and there are two bells.

It was anciently a rectory valued at eighteen marks. It was appropriated to the priory of Blackburgh, on a grant of the lord Scales, in the 22d or 24th of Edward III.

In a window was the pourtraiture of Roger lord Scales, on his knees, in compleat armour, with a ſcroll in his right hand, thereon—*Jeſu Fili Dei miſerer.* — — with his arms; gules, ſix eſcallops, argent, impaling, ermine, a croſs ingrailed, gules, the arms of his lady Joan, daughter of ſir Robert Norwood, with Scales's creſt, a plume of oſtrich's feathers argent, iſſuing out of a coronet, or. Alſo the arms

arms of Ufford, earl of Suffolk, ſable, a croſs ingrailed, or.

The Rev. John Daville was preſented to the vicarage of Illington, by the king, in the year 1775.

LYNN, NORTH. Of this pariſh very little is known with certainty, excepting that the family of the Guybons, an antient family, had a conſiderable eſtate here.

Thomas Guybon, eſq. was living in the reign of queen Elizabeth, and married Eleanor, daughter of Richard Colville, of Newton in the Iſle of Ely.

Humphry Guybon was the laſt of the family in North Lynn: he married the daughter of ſir Philip Wodehouſe.

The preſent proprietor of North and Weſt Lynn is Thomas Pownall, eſq. formerly governor of Maſſachuſet's Bay, in which government he preſided many years with great reputation.

The church has for many years paſt been deſtroyed by the waters, and the rector preaches annually a ſermon upon the ſands.

The preſent rector is the Rev. Philip Pyle, who was preſented in 1756, the youngeſt ſon of that very learned divine the Rev. Thomas Pyle, who was for many years miniſter of St. Margaret's church, and was a celebrated preacher: he was alſo diſtinguiſhed by his writings, and was in great eſteem with the moſt learned men of his time. He was one of the prebendaries reſidentiary of the cathedral church of Saliſbury.

LYNN,

LYNN, WEST, It has been an idle tradition, that this was, in ancient days, the grand port, or chief town: and on that account is frequently called Old Lynn. I have obſerved, that in the book of Doomſday, Lena was the name of what is now called the burgh of Lynn, of South Lynn, and of Weſt and North Lynn; and that the chief port was then at the burgh, is certain, from the cuſtoms and laſtage of that port, which then belonged to the biſhop of Ely, and the lord of Riſing, and which continued ſo for many centuries, and ſtill belong to the ſaid burgh; this place was only an hamlet belonging to the ſaid burgh.

In a pleading, anno 41ſt of Henry III. it occurs by the name of Weſt Lenne; and in the year 1300, Alan de Lindeſey, burgeſs of Lena, gave by deed to William de Gouſele, farrier, of Lenn, the liberty of a paſſage or ferry-boat, over the water of Lenn, which he had bought of Alan, ſon of John Codling of Weſt Lenn, to the ſaid William and his heirs, &c. paying to the capital lord of the liberty, the ſervice of right due and cuſtomary, for which the ſaid William gave to him a certain ſum of ſilver in hand, paid. Witneſſes, John de Merlowe, then mayor, Peter de Thundreyn, John de St. Omer, &c. burgeſſes, dated at Lynn, anno 1300.

This John de Merlowe was firſt mayor in 1295; then occurs mayor again in 1299, and in the ſucceeding year 1300. In thoſe early ages it was no uncommon thing for a mayor to continue in his office two years running, and ſometimes three years. In the reign of Edward II. Lambert de St. Homero, was mayor in the years 1312, 1313, 1314.

The

The ferry-boat and paſſage over the water is ſtill private property, and not in the corporation. We believe it belongs at preſent to the Rev. Mr. William Young, in right of his wife.

The church is dedicated to St. Peter. It is covered with lead, the chancel with reed, and has a ſquare tower with three bells.

The Rev. William Everard is the preſent rector, 1778.

TERRINGTON. This town though very conſiderable in its bounds and lands, is not mentioned in the book of Doomſday, and the reaſon is, that there was at that time no independent manor or lordſhip, with its lands here, held of the king; all the lands herein belonged to, and depended on ſome neighbouring lordſhips and towns, where they had their ſcite, and extended themſelves into this; and were under thoſe lordſhips and towns, valued and extended and accounted for.

The ſubject and deſign of that moſt valuable record, the book of Doomſday, being to ſet forth and aſcertain thoſe lands only which were held *in capite*, and that in the proper place, where the heads of ſuch fees and tenures lay, and immediately appertained and belonged. Many indeed have maintained, that if a town was not to be found in that book it was not at that time in being; not conſidering and reflecting rightly on the true ſubject and deſign of that book: this led Camden, and after him others, to aſſert Royſton, in Hertfordſhire, not to have a being in the time of the Conqueror, the caſe being the ſame with that town as with this of Terrington.

BARDOLPH'S FEE. Hermerus de Ferrariis, who held a manor in Tilney and Iſlington in the Conqueror's time, was alſo lord of part of this town, into which the ſaid manor extended: this came after to the lords Bardolphs, and was a member of the honor or barony of Wormegay; part of this was held by the antient family of Terrington, who aſſumed their name from this town.

HOWARD'S MANOR. William Howard purchaſed lands here, in Walpole and Tilney, in the 20th of Edward I. of John de Hoyland and Sibill his wife.

In the 3d of Richard II. a fine was levied of the manor of Howards, in Terrington, with that of Wiggenhall, &c. between William Ufford, earl of Suffolk, ſir John Lovell, ſir John Tudenham, knts. &c. feoffees, querents, and ſir Robert Howard and Margaret his wife, deforciants: and in the 3d of Henry IV. ſir John Howard was lord, which ſir John, on his death in 1437, left to Henry Howard, his ſecond ſon, by the lady Alice, daughter of ſir William Tendring, his ſecond wife, the manor of manor of Terrington Howard's, and Eaſt Walton, &c. whoſe daughter and ſole heir, Elizabeth, brought it by marriage to Henry, ſecond ſon of Roger Wentworth, eſq. of Nettleſtead in Suffolk, (who died ſeiſed of it in the 22d of Edward IV.) by whom he had Roger Wentworth, of Coddenham, Suffolk, knt. who died in the 33d of Henry VIII. and by Ann his wife, daughter and heir of Humphry Tyrrell, of Warley in Eſſex. (ſecond ſon of ſir Thomas Tyrrell, of Heron in Eſſex) had ſir John Wentworth, of Coddenham and Goſfield, who had livery of this manor in the 31ſt of Henry VIII. and dying September 3, 1567, was buried at Goſfield in Eſſex, leaving by Ann his wife, daughter of ——— Bettenham, of Pluckley

Pluckley in Kent, eſq. two daughters and coheirs, Mary, married to Thomas lord Wentworth, who died without iſſue, and Ann, married firſt to ſir Hugh Rich, ſon and heir to Richard lord Rich, afterwards to Henry lard Matrevers, ſon and heir to Henry Fitz Alan, earl of Arundel.

By an inquiſition taken, *poſt mortem*, Jan. 14, in the 7th of Charles I. at Ipſwich, it was found that ſir Edward Villiers, knt. died ſeized of the manor of Terrington Howard's, Overhall, and Netherhall in Poſtingford; the manors of Impeys and Bully-hall, &c. in Suffolk; and that by Barbara his wife, daughter of ſir John St. John, he had a ſon and heir, William Villiers, aged 20, in 1625: the will of ſir Edward bears date Auguſt 3, 1625, but he died February 2, 1626.

After this it came to the Hovells, and ſo to the Folkes's, and ſir Martin Folkes, bart. of Hillington, is the preſent lord of Terrington Howard's.

DUNTON'S alias MARSHALL'S MANOR, and MONK'S. Hugh de Duntone was lord in Hen. III.'s time.

GODDARD'S MANOR. In 1233, Thomas, ſon of Goddard, held the third part of a fee in Middleton, of the lord Bardolph, and lands here.

Robert Goddard, eſq. was living in the 12th of Henry VI. ſon and heir of Walter, and held a lordſhip here and in Walpole, of Joan abbeſs of Elneſtow, in Bedfordſhire, and was buried in Terrington church in 1448.

After this, William Goddard, eſq. a judge of the King's Bench, had an intereſt herein, and Catherine his

his wife, who died in 1464; and in the 12th of Edward IV. John Well, of Wiſbeach, and Agnes his wife, daughter and heir of John Goddard, conveyed lands to Henry Balding, eſq. and Gregory Guybon, of Weſt Lynn, eſq.

Bishop of Ely's Manor. This was the principal manor of this town, and belonged to the biſhop's great lordſhips of Weſt Walton, Wiſbeach, &c. which extended into this town.

In the 31ſt of Henry III. a fine was levied between Hugh biſhop of Ely, patent, and John ſon of Wace, deforciant of cuſtoms and ſervices, which the biſhop demanded for the free tenement, held of the biſhop, in Terrington, with forty-five acres, for which he was to pay 20s. ſterling yearly, granted to him by the biſhop, on the payment of 15s. 4d. per ann. ſaving to the biſhop the general aid, when it was to be levied through the biſhoprick, upon his freemen, by the king's precept.

In the 5th of that king there was an extent made of this manor, as appears from the regiſter of the biſhop of Ely, in the Cottonian Library, now in the Muſeum: the jury preſent it to be in the liberty of that biſhop in Marſhland, that his bailiff might hold pleas of all that the ſheriffs might, with writ and without, aſſiſe of bread and beer, and amercements of his tenants, wreck at ſea, the patronage of the church of Terrington, and of the chapel of St. John's, towards the marſh, with all the tithes, except two part of the tithe of the land of William, ſon of William here; and the fee of ſir William Bardolph, called Knight's Land: the demeans of the manor conſiſted of four hundred and ninety-ſeven acres, one rood and an half, by the

the leſſer hundred, and the perch of ſeven feet, which might be plowed with ſix oxen, and ſix Scots to harrow, and carry the corn and dung; the meadows were two hundred and ſixty-nine acres and half a rood, freſh paſture forty-ſix acres, three roods and a half, ſalt paſture one thouſand two hundred and ten acres, all held by ſeveralty.

The towns of Terrington, Tilney, Walpole, Walton, and the Soke of Walſoken, were to common and dig turfs, &c. in the marſh called Weſt Fen, but none could ſell, or give any turfs away without leave of all the lords, having common within the boundary thereof, being three miles long and two and a half broad.

It remained in the ſee of Ely till the death of Dr. Cox, in 1581, when it came to the crown by an act of parliament made in the 4th of Elizabeth, which empowered her to grant and convey the impropriate tithes, glebe lands, &c. of rectories lodged in the crown on the diſſolution of religious houſes, to ſeveral epiſcopal ſees; and for her to take into the right of the crown, on the vacancy of any ſee, any part of the honors, caſtles, manors, lands, &c. of the ſaid ſees, as ſhould amount to the yearly value of ſuch rectories impropriate, to be ſettled on them for ever; and thus this goodly manor, with many other belonging to the ſee of Ely, came to the crown, on the death of biſhop Cox aforeſaid.

King James I. granted this manor, with all its appurtenances, to his eldeſt ſon Henry, and after to Charles prince of Wales.

After this, it was aſſigned to queen Catherine, conſort of king Charles II. as part of her dowry,

and was farmed by ſir James Chapham Fuller, bart. and in the year 1696, was granted to William Bentinck, earl of Portland, by king William III.

Count Bentinck, a younger ſon of this family, who lives in Holland, is lord of it, and of the greateſt part of this town.

Count Bentinck was captain of the Niger man of war in the Engliſh ſervice during the laſt war. In the year 1773 and 1774, he raiſed a very remarkable ſea bank upon Terrington ſalt-marſhes, and took in a conſiderable number of acres by keeping out the ſea and ſpring-tides from overflowing them. This has been a great improvement upon the eſtate, but it coſt captain Bentinck his life, who by expoſing himſelf at all ſeaſons by his cloſe attention to this work, contracted a fen fever, which carried him off about the end of the year 1774. He was a member of the Houſe of Commons till the unexpected diſſolution of the parliament in October 1774, when it was ſaid he was ſolicited to ſtand candidate for the borough of Lynn. His farms within the old bank, as may be ſeen in Mr. Armſtrong's ſpecimen of his new map for the county of Norfolk, are called after the titles of the family in Holland. "Bentinck farm, Welbeck farm, Roon farm." The counts Bentinck are lords of Roon in Holland.

Prior of Lewes's Manor. This was part of the ſaid prior's manor of Weſt Walton, and extended into this town.

Walter Terrington, L. L. D. was a celebrated writer and author, and born in this town, as was John Colton, firſt maſter of Gonvile hall in Cambridge, and preferred to the primacy of Ireland by king Henry IV. archbiſhop of Armagh in Ireland.

The church of Terrington is dedicated to St. Clement, and is a very beautiful, large, and noble building of freeſtone, in the form of a cathedral church.

On a pillar here, a compartment of marble, with the arms of Aſcham, gules, a feſs, or, between three dolphins embowed, argent, impaling Bury, ermine, on a bend, azure, between two cottiſes, gules, three lys, or; creſt, a dolphin embowed.

Near to this place lyeth John Aſcham, Eſq. born at Boſton in Lincolnſhire, and Mary his wife, one of the daughters of Sir William Bury, of Grantham in Lincolnſhire, knight, and ſiſter to the Lord Chief Baron Bury; he departed, &c. May 3, 1675, *ſhe died June* 8, 1704.

On a grave-ſtone in the chancel, with the arms of Upwood, quarterly, in the firſt and fourth, a chevron, between three heads, eraſed, ſable, quartering, argent, three cocks, gules; Cockain the ſecond and third.

In memory of Samuel Upwood, Eſq. who died September 7, 1716, *in his* 38 *year.*

Againſt the north wall of the chancel is a ſmall mural monument for *Dorothy, wife of Mr. John Edwards, daughter of Thorowgood Upwood, Eſq. who died Feb.* 15, 1721-2, *aged* 40; with the arms of Edwards; ermine, a lion rampant, guardant, azure, on a canton, an eagle diſplayed, ſable, impaling Upwood.

Here was alſo formerly buried in this church, Thomas Dudley, deſcended from the lord Dudley,

with this epitaph:—*Hic jacet Thom. Sutton, filius Thomæ Sutton, nuper de Milton, filij D'ni Johs. Sutton, D'ni de Dudley.*

Alſo a grave-ſtone for Elizabeth Sutton, wife, as we ſuppoſe, of the aforeſaid Thomas Sutton, eſq.—*Hic jacet Eliz. Sutton, filia Roberti Goddard;* with the arms of Sutton, impaling Goddard and Denver quarterly.

On the wood-work of the roof of the nave, is an anchor carved, the inſignia of St. Clement, to whom this church is dedicated. Alſo a plain croſs.

The preſent rector is the Rev. Dr. Brooke, Lady Margaret's profeſſor of divinity in the univerſity of Cambridge, to which profeſſorſhip this rectory was annexed for ever, in the year 1605, by king James I.

The preſent vicar is the Rev. Mr. Upwood.

There is a chapel dedicated to St. John, belonging to this church, where the vicar of Terrington is to perform duty and ſervice; and ſeems to be built in 1423, licence being then granted to John Billing, vicar, to build a chapel in the lordſhip of the biſhop of Ely, at the croſs called Reykes-croſs, to the honor of God and the Holy Croſs; and in 1428, mention is made of a pilgrimage to Terrington St. John's.

It is ſaid to be made parochial and free from the church of St. Clement, by Thomas archbiſhop of Canterbury, in 1530, but we find no inſtitution to it as a parochial church, and remains at this time a chapel to the ſaid church, for the ſervice of the pariſhioners, being three miles from the mother church.

It is a regular pile, with a nave, two iſles and a chancel covered with lead; a ſquare ſtone tower with four pinnacles, and four bells ſtanding at the ſouth weſt corner.

TILNEY. The lord Bardolf's manor of Iſlington extended here.

LORD BARDOLF'S FEE. It was a part of the honor of Wormegay, the barony of the lords Bardolf; and being a conſiderable lordſhip, ſeveral perſons were enfeoffed therein; from whence ſprung up many lordſhips, held by different parts of fees and tenures here, and the preſentation to the church of Tilney belonged formerly to the lords Bardolf's, as capital lords.

CHERVILLE'S MANOR. The family of Cherville, or Kervile, was early enfeoffed of part. In the 10th of Richard I. a fine was levied between Simon, ſon of Roger de Cherville, petent, and Roger, ſon of Walter de Cherville, of lands in Tilney.

Sir Frederick de Cherville held two fees in Tilney, Iſlington, Wiggenhall, and Clenchwarton, (when an aid was granted, on the marriage of king Henry III.'s ſiſter to the emperor of Germany) of the honor of Wormegay; and was found in the 34th of that king to have a gallows in Tilney, and the liberty, or power of trying and hanging offenders.

In the 4th of Edward I. William lord Bardolf, was found to die ſeiſed of a manor here, held *in capite*, by the ſervice of paying caſtle guard to the caſtle of Norwich, ſeven ſhillings per month, and half a mark per ann.

From the Chervilles, it came partly to the Marmunds, and to the Tilneys, probably by ſome marriage, ſir John Tilney having a lordſhip here in Edward III.'s time, who was ſon of ſir Thomas de Tilney: ſir John was ſtiled of Whaplode, in Lincolnſhire, and left two daughters and coheirs, Iſabel married to Jeffrey Folvile, by whom he had Maud, a daughter and heir, married to ſir John Woodford, whoſe ſon, ſir Robert, of Sproxton in Leiceſterſhire, gave his grandſon John, in the 26th of Henry VI. lands here. Alice, another daughter and coheir of ſir John Tilney, married Edmund Kervile, of Wiggenhall St. Mary's

WEST DEREHAM ABBEY MANOR. This abbey had conſiderable poſſeſſions in this town.

On the diſſolution of this abbey it came to the crown, and was granted July 3, in the 2d of Elizabeth, to Richard Nicholls, of Tilney, with all its appurtenances in Tilney, Terrington, Iſlington and Clenchwarton, with the rectory of Rougham in Norfolk, belonging to Weſtacre priory, and the rectory of Dunton in Norfolk, belonging to the priory of Marmound; and George Nicholls held it in the 27th of that queen.

FENN'S and NOON'S MANOR. In the reign of Henry III. Philip de Fenn, and his tenants, were found to hold the third part of a knight's fee here, and in Wiggenhall, of the lord Bardolf; and the heirs of John Noon held alſo, with the abbot of Dereham, two fees of the ſaid towns of the ſame lord.

Sir Edmund Noon occurs lord in the 3d of Hen. IV. and in the 5th of Henry VI. Thomas Noon held

held the eighth part of a fee in Tilney, Wiggenhall and Clenchwarton, of Thomas Beaufort, duke of Exeter, lord of the honor of Wormegay.

MARSHALL'S MANOR. William, ſon of John le Mareſchalle, had a lordſhip held of the honor of Wormegay,

WENDLING ABBOT'S MANOR. In the 24th of Henry III. the abbot held in this town and in Wiggenhall, the eighth part of a fee of the honor of Wormegay.

On the diſſolution of the religious houſes in the time of Henry VIII. this monaſtery came to the crown; and on the 30th of Auguſt queen Elizabeth, in her 13th year, granted it, with all the lands and tenements, &c. belonging to it, in the towns of Tilney, Iſlington, Clenchwarton, Walpole, Emneth and Gayton, to Thomas Jenyns and Edward Forth.

WESTACRE PRIORY. Jeffrey Sutton alienated lands in this town, Terrington, Wiggenhall, &c. to this priory, in the 6th of Edward II.

EARL of CLARE'S FEE. In the fines of lands lying in this town, frequent mention is made of the Tilney family. Robert de Tilney lived in the reign of king Henry III. and Godfrey his ſon, was found to have a manor here in the 3d of Edward I.

Philip, ſon of Frederick de Tilney, who lived at Boſton in Lincolnſhire, eſq. was poſſeſſed of a manor, or lands here, as appears by his will dated on the feaſt of St. Ambroſe, in the 11th year of king Richard II. and Frederick had fifty acres of land here, conveyed to him by fine, which Nicholas

Blower held for the life of Agnes, widow of John, ſon of William Noon, of Tilney.

In the 47th of Edward III. and in the 43d of that king, John, ſon of Jeffrey de Tilney and Agnes, his wife, had lands conveyed to them by fine.

Weaver, in his Funeral Monuments, gives an extract from a book, then in the hands of Thomas Tilney, of Hadleigh in Suffolk, eſq. which belonged (as in a note of the ſaid book is ſaid) to ſir Frederick Tilney, of Boſton in Lincolnſhire, who was knighted at Acon in the Holy Land, by king Richard I. in his 3d year; a knight remarkable for his great ſtature, and ſtrength of body; and was buried with his anceſtors in the church of Terrington, by Tilney, whoſe height was to be ſeen there at that time, viz. 1556.

After him ſixteen knights ſucceeded, (of the name of Tilney) and in the eſtate; who all lived at Boſton, till it came to Thomas duke of Norfolk, by the marriage of a daughter and heireſs of an elder brother.

The laſt of this knightly family, was then ſir Phil. Tilney, of Shelleigh in Suffolk, father of Thomas Tilney, of Hadleigh.

The book here mentioned, in 1727 was in the hands of Peter Le Neve, Norroy, but the note abovementioned, appears by the hand to be written long after the ſiege of Acon, and about the reign of king Henry VIII. or Edward VI. and there was no ſuch ſucceſſion of knights as here mentioned.

PRIOR of LEWES's MANOR, or KENWICK's, was part of the capital lordſhip of that prior in Weſt Walton, and granted by the name of Kenwick in Tilney, in the reign of king Richard I. with the conſent of the abbot of Clugny, of Burgundy in France, (to which abbey Lewes was a cell) to Alan, ſon of Robert de Snetſham, alias de Inglethorpe, in fee-farm, at twenty marks per ann. moſt of the demeſne lands belonging to it being exempted from tithe.

Thomas de Ingaldeſthorpe was lord in the 8th of king John, and in the 3d of Edward I. John de Ingaldeſthorpe was found to hold a knight's fee in this town.

This town gives name to a famous common, called Tilney Smeeth, whereon thirty thouſand, or more, large Marſhland ſheep, and the great cattle of ſeven towns, to which it belongs, are conſtantly ſaid to feed; about one mile in breadth, and three in length, viz. Tilney, Terrington, Clenchwarton, Iſlington, Walpole, Weſt Walton, Walſoken and Emneth: a piece of land ſo fruitful, (as was reported by a courtier to king James I. at his firſt coming to the crown) "that if over night a wand, or rod, was laid on the "ground, by the morning it would be covered with "graſs of that night's growth, ſo as not to be diſ-"cerned;" to which that king is ſaid, in a jocoſe manner, to reply, "that he knew ſome grounds in "Scotland, where if an horſe was put in over "night, they could not ſee him, or diſcern him in "the morning." Of this plain or ſmeeth, there is a tradition, which the common people retain, that in old time, the inhabitants of theſe towns had a conteſt with the lords of the manors, about the bounds and limits of it; when one Hickifric, a perſon of great ſtature and courage, aſſiſting the ſaid

ſaid inhabitants in their rights of common, took an axel-tree from a cart wheel, inſtead of a ſword, and the wheel for a ſhield, or buckler, and thus armed ſoon repelled the invaders; and for proof of this notable exploit, they to this day ſhew, ſays ſir William Dugdale, a large grave-ſtone, near the eaſt end of the chancel, in Tilney church-yard, whereon the form of a croſs is ſo cut, or carved, as that the upper part thereof, wherewith the carver hath adorned it, being circular, they will therefore needs have it to be the grave-ſtone of Hickifric, and to be as a memorial of his gallantry.

The ſtone coffin which ſtands out of the ground in Tilney church-yard, on the north ſide of the church, will not receive a perſon above ſix feet in length, and this is ſhewn as belonging formerly to the giant Hickifric; the croſs, ſaid to be a repreſentation of the cart-wheel, is a croſs pattee, on the ſummit of a ſtaff, which ſtaff is ſtiled an axle-tree; ſuch croſſes pattee on the head of a ſtaff, were emblems, or tokens, that ſome knight templar was therein interred, and many ſuch are to be ſeen at this day in old churches.

Til, is the name of a river in Northumberland, and many towns take their names from Til; as Tilbrook in Bedfordſhire, Tilford in Surry, Tilbury in Eſſex, &c. *

The church of Tilney is dedicated to All Saints, and is a large building, conſiſting of a nave, north and ſouth iſle, with a chancel covered with lead; at the weſt end ſtands a ſquare tower, with pinnacles; on the tower, a ſpire of freeſtone.

The

* Parkin.

The church and town ſtands at the diſtance of four miles from Lynn Regis over the channel into Marſhland.

The old ſtory of Hickiſric, or Hickathriſt, is that he took up a great hammer from a forge at Lynn, and threw it acroſs the river into Tilney church-yard, ſaying, "wherever it fell he would be buried."

In the 20th of Edward III. a fine was levied between Mary de St. Paul, counteſs of Pembroke, and John lord Bardolf, of the patronage of this rectory, and an acre of land, viz. the church-yard held *in capite*, and conveyed then to the counteſs for forty-eight marks, the fine being levied by a ſpecial precept. The family of Bardolf is, by all accounts that we have ſeen, ſaid to have purchaſed it of ſir Frederick de Cherville in the reign of Henry III. but as the Chervilles manor in this town was held of the lords Bardolf, who had the chief fee in it, it is moſt probable that it was always an appendix to their capital manor,

King Edward III. in his 32d year, granted a patent to appropriate it to Pembroke Hall in Cambridge, by the gift of the foundreſs, the ſaid counteſs of Pembroke, and a vicarage ſettled.

The Rev. Mr. Peele, now upper miniſter of St. Peter's of Mancroft in the city of Norwich, was preſented to this vicarage in 1748, on the death of the reverend and very learned divine Dr. John Whaley, late maſter of Peterhouſe College, in Cambridge, and regius profeſſor of divinity in that univerſity.

WALPOLE

WALPOLE takes its name from the great wall, or ſea bank raiſed to defend it, and from a pool, or deep water near to that wall. Of this great pariſh, only this account is to be found in the grand ſurvey, or book of Doomſday.

John nephew of Waleran, held lands in Walpole. Waleran was ſome officer of the Conqueror, and earl of Millant in Normandy.

EARL of CLARE'S MANOR. How long it continued in this John's poſſeſſion does not appear; probably on his death it was granted to the Giffard's family, earls of Bucks, who had conſiderable poſſeſſions in this tract and neighbourhood; and by the marriage of a daughter and heireſs of Giffard, the ſecond earl, was brought into the family of the earls of Clare.

In the 47th of Henry III. Richard de Clare, earl of Clare, was found, as appears from the eſcheat rolls, to have held lands in Walpole, by knight's ſervice.

In the 52d of that king, Hamon Moynſtrail had a manor here, which we ſuppoſe to be this; and then gave licence of diſtreſs for rent due to the prioreſs of Carrowe, for lands in Heacham; and in the 7th of Edward I. Adam Muſtroil ſettled lands here, and in Hunſtanton, on Hamon his ſon, by fine.

In the 21ſt year of king Edward I. John Lovell and his tenants held this manor by the third part of a fee, of the earl of Glouceſter; and in the 1ſt of Edward II. John Lovell of Titchmarſh, ſettled it with that of Hunſtanton, on William Lovell, and and the heirs of his body, by fine then levied: the

ſaid

ſaid William was found in the 8th of that king to die ſeiſed of it, held of the honor of Clare.

It appears in the 20th of Edward III. from the inquiſitions, that William Lovell and his tenants, held in Walpole the third part of a fee of the earl of Glouceſter, which John Lovell formerly held, and had a charter for free-warren in all his demean lands here, and in Hunſtanton; and in the 22d of Richard II. Roger Mortimer, earl of March, was found to hold *in capite*, one fee in this town, Hunſtanton and Walton, held by William Lovell, as parcel of the honor of Clare; and John Lovel held the third part of a fee of the earl of March, in Walpole, and was under age; and the king's ward in the 3d of Henry IV.

Edmund Mortimer, earl of March, was found to hold one fee in Walpole, Hunſtanton and Walton, held by William Lovell in the 3d of Henry VI. and in the 13th of Edward IV. the jury preſent that Robert Fitz-Symon, held the day he died the manors of Hunſtanton and Walpole, Mocking in Eſſex, Lillingſton, Lovell in Oxfordſhire, the moiety of the manor of Archeſter in Northamptonſhire, and that Joan, the wife of Robert Timperley, was his daughter and heir, then twenty-two years old.

John Pell was lord of Lovell's manor, with meſſuages, lands and tenements, in the 13th and in the 42d of Elizabeth.

John Richards, alias Glover, and Joan his wife, had a præcipe to deliver to John Moore, the manor of Lovells, in this town and Terrington, &c.

By

By an inquiſition taken at Norwich, October 1, in the 5th year of king Charles I. after the death of Henry Reppes, eſq. who died the 23d of March, 1628, it was found that he died poſſeſſed of this manor of Lovells, held of the king, of his honour of Clare, by knight's ſervice; and is called a decayed and reputed manor.

Valentine Upwood, eſq. lord, and Samuel Upwood in 1716.

Beſides this little lordſhip, there were two very conſiderable ones in this townſhip of Walpole, one belonging to the church of Ely, another to the earl Warren, at the time when Doomſday-book was made; and yet no account occurs, or is to be found in Doomſday-book of theſe, or any mention made of Walpole, (excepting the account of John, nephew of Waleran's manor before obſerved) and the reaſon is, that the manor of the aforeſaid John, was the only independent manor, held *in capite* of the king, in this town, and had its ſcite herein: whereas the lordſhips of the church of Ely, and the earl Warren, though held alſo *in capite*, were dependent manors on the church of Ely's capital manor of Weſt Walton and Wiſbech, and the earl Warren's capital manor, in the ſaid town of Walton, which had their ſcites there, and extended into Walpole, Terrington, &c. and ſo were valued and accounted for under the capital manor of Weſt Walton, &c. where no doubt all duties and ſervices of thoſe who held lands in Walpole, and Terrington, of the aforeſaid biſhop and earl, were conſtantly performed and due.

Ely Manor. Oſwi, a noble Saxon, and Leofleda his wife, father and mother of Alwyn, gave on the admiſſion of their ſon Alwyn into the monaſtery of Ely,

Ely, (where he became a monk, and was after biſhop of Elmham, in Norfolk, in 1021) the manors of Walpole, with thoſe of Wiſbech, Walſoken, Weſt Walton, and Terrington, in Norfolk.

MARSHE'S, or COLVILLE'S MANOR. In the reign of king Richard II. ſir William Marſh had lands here, and gave his name to the manor. Afterwards it came to ſir John Colville, and then took a ſecond name. In the reign of Henry VIII. ſir John Colville held it of the biſhop of Ely.

WALPOLE'S MANOR. The truly ancient family of the Walpoles, of Houghton in Norfolk, earls of Orford, were many ages paſt enfeoffed in lands, and a lordſhip in this town, from which, according to the Norman cuſtom, they aſſumed their Name. Of this family was Jeffrey de Walpole, ſon of Reginald, as appears by deed *ſans date*.

Amongſt the names of thoſe knights who owed ſervice to the biſhop of Ely, as appears from an exchequer-book, Jocelinus de Walpole is named to hold half a fee in Walpole, Walton and Hackbech; and among the free tenants of the ſaid biſhop, Adam de Walpole is ſaid to hold half a virgate, and a piece of paſture, paying one mark per ann. and Jocelinus de Walpole half a virgate; Oſbert de Stradſett the fourth part of a virgate, John Norman, William de Schuldham, Alan ſon of Algar, Ralph ſon of Joceline, and Roger his brother, Andrew de Terrington, and William de Camera, &c.

Ralph ſon of Joceline, appears to have three ſons, Thomas, Alan, and Richard de Walpole, from a pleading in the 34th of Henry III. when Peter and William de Walpole were ſons of Thomas de Walpole,

pole. And before this, in the 12th of the ſaid king, a fine was levied between Claricia, daughter of Alan de Walpole, Thomas de Cheyle and Chriſtian his wife, Robert Chamberlain and Mariona his wife, petents, and Henry de Walpole, tenant, of forty acres of land in this town, granted to Henry; and in the 19th of the ſaid reign, Richard de Walpole was petent in a fine, and Walter ſon of Alan, and Catherine his wife, tenant of lands here. A ſon of Joceline was benefactor to the priory of Lewes.

About this time lived ſir Henry de Walpole, knt. who by deed *ſans* date, granted to Thomas de Spalding, burgeſs of Lynn, for his homage and ſervice, and for twenty marks ſterling, certain lands in Terrington, to be held of him and his heirs, paying to the lords of the fee the accuſtomed ſervices and dues, viz. ſixpence *(de cenſu)* at the feaſt of St. Michael, and to him and his heirs one clove at the feaſt of St. John Baptiſt. Witneſſes to this deed, *ſans* date, are ſir William de Terrington, ſir John de Wygenhale, knights; Hugh de Dunſtone, Nicholas de Hecham, Walter Mareſchal, William de Mundeford, Nicholas de Burgh. John de Bauſey, clerk, &c.

To this is affixed his ſeal,—a feſs between two chevrons; which arms are borne at this day by the earl of Orford; of the ſame family was Ralph de Walpole, who was biſhop of Ely in the reign of Edward I. and bore the ſame arms.

Before this, it is ſaid that the family removed from Walpole to Houghton in Norfolk, on the marriage of Richard, ſon of Reginald de Walpole, with Emme, daughter of Walter, ſon of William de

de Havelton or Houghton; but they ſtill continued to have an intereſt and a manor here. For in the 5th of Edward II. Henry de Walpole, (and Alice his wife) appears to be lord both of Houghton and Walpole, by a fine then levied.

In the 3d of that king lands in Tilney and Wiggenhall were ſettled on John ſon of Alexander de Walpole, by Alexander his father; and in the 6th of the ſaid reign Bartholomew de Walpole, ſon of John de Walpole, and Catherine his wife, held lands in Walpole.

Henry, ſon of Henry de Walpole, by his will, dated 1442, orders his truſtees of this manor, to enfeoff Henry his ſon, in tail, in the ſame; and Thomas Walpole, gent. ſon of John Walpole, eſq. by his deed, dated March 30, in the 12th of Henry VII. granted to Thomas Aleyn of Walpole, a meſſuage, lands, and a ſalt-work with the grains, &c. in this town.

John Walpole, of Houghton, eſq. by his will, dated February 28, in the 30th of Elizabeth, and proved in April following, bequeaths to Catherine his wife all his lands in Walpole and Walton, to her and her heirs, towards the preferment of the marriage of his daughters.

ROCHFORD'S MANOR. The ancient family of de Rochford had alſo a manor in this town, held as it ſeems of the ſee of Ely.

This manor continued in the family of the Rochfords under many ſovereigns, till in the reign of Henry IV. ſir Henry Rochford conveyed it to the vicar of Walpole.

The Rochfords took their name from a village in Eſſex they poſſeſſed ſoon after the Conqueſt, and from which the preſent earl of Rochford probably derives his title.

The Rochfords were ſuch a numerous family, and of ſo many branches, that it is not eaſy to diſtinguiſh, or make a regular deſcent of them, and we find that they varied on this account their arms: ſome bore quarterly, or, and gules, in a bordure ſable, bezanty; others the ſame quarterly, in a bordure indented, uncharged: we find alſo an annulet bore in the firſt quarter, alſo a de lys, bore by ſome. The creſt of the Rochfords was a man's head, with a prolix beard, thereon an high almain cap, on a wreath, mantelled ermin.

In the 5th of Henry VI. ſir William Mallory and Margaret his wife, conveyed meſſuages and lands to ſir Ralph Rochford, and Richard Leak, eſq. in North and South Stoke in Lincolnſhire; and in the ſaid year he ſurrendered his right in the manor of Wychampton in Dorſetſhire, to ſir Gilbert Kyghley. He was living at Walpole in 1446, and died before 1455. In the ledger-book of Boſton, Margaret, late the wife of ſir Ralph Rochford, is ſaid to die in that year.

In the eaſt window of the north iſle of St. Peter's church of Walpole, is to be ſeen the effigies of this knight in armour, and that of his lady, on their knees; on his ſurtout are the arms of Rochford, quarterly, or, and gules, in the ſecond quarter an annulet ſable, in a bordure of the ſame, bezanty.

Ralph Rochford, eſq. ſon and heir of Henry, was by ſome called a knight. Thomas Rochford, eſq.

eſq. his brother, by his will dated January 30, 1438, and proved February 25 following, requires to be buried in the chapel of St. Mary, in the church of St. Peter of Walpole; names Margaret his wife executrix, to whom he gives his lands in Ringſtead and Holme, to pay his debts, and if ſhe ſhould be with child, the iſſue to have them, and ſhe her dower in his lands at Walpole.

In the 33d of Henry VI. in a deed of this Ralph, of lands in Caſtle-Riſing, dated September 26, at Walpole, he ſtiles himſelf Ralph Rochford, late eſquire, now clerk, *(nup. Armiger modo Clericus)* by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of ſir Marmaduke Conſtable, he had three ſons; Henry, the eldeſt, Ralph, of Langholm, and Saier, of Barton.

Henry had a lordſhip in Boſton, called Fenn's, and that of Rochford in Shirbeck; and in the 7th of Henry VII. ſir Henry Rochford, knt. was one of the juſtices of the peace, and of the gaol delivery, within the biſhop of Ely's liberty in Norfolk.

After this we find nothing more of the Rochfords; as the biſhop of Ely was the capital lord, and their eſtate was held of him, it was veſted in that ſee, and ſo continued till granted by an act of parliament, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, to the crown, on an exchange of lands with the biſhop.

DENVER'S MANOR, or GODDARD'S, had its riſe from a diviſion of that lordſhip, which Henry de Walpole, ſon of Oſbert de Walpole held, who dying without iſſue, his two aunts, Iſabel and Alice, ſiſters to Oſbert, were heirs to it.

From the Walpoles it came to the Denvers; from them to the Goddards, and from the Goddards to the Hunſtons.

Henry Hunſton, of Walpole, eſq. was living in the reign of Henry VIII. and married Jane, daughter of ſir John Audley, of Swaffham, knt.

Thomas Hunſton, eſq. ſold it to John Hare, eſq. ſon of John Hare, citizen and mercer, of London; with ſeveral meſſuages, lands, &c. that came to the Hunſtons from the Goddards, Walpoles, and Rochfords, called in the conveyance the manors of Denvers and Walpoles; and Henry Hare, lord Colraine, his direct heir, died poſſeſſed of it in 1749, and on his death deſcending to an alien, was in the king's hands.

It is now in the poſſeſſion of James Townſend, eſq. by grant of the king. James Townſend ſerved the office of lord mayor, and is an alderman of the city of London 1778.

PRIOR of LEWES's MANOR was a part, or member of the prior's capital manor in Weſt Walton, given by William the firſt earl Warren.

Henry Hare, lord Colraine, died poſſeſſed of it in 1749; on his death it came as an eſcheat to the crown. It is now in the poſſeſſion of James Townſend, eſq. alderman of London, who married the heireſs of lord Colraine.

PANNEL's MANOR. The Welbys of Lincolnſhire had a conſiderable intereſt in this town: Joan Welby, widow, of Moulton, poſſeſſed it, and on her ſon Richard Welby's marriage with Elizabeth, daughter

daughter of ſir William Calthorpe, of Ludham in Norfolk, ſettled it on them September 10, in the 8th of Edward IV. Chriſtopher Langholme, eſq. on the death of his brother, had livery of it in the 29th of Henry VIII. held, as is ſaid, of the prior of Lewes: in the 3d and 4th of Philip and Mary, Chriſt. Langholme conveyed it to Richard Goodrick; and Thomas Hewar had præcipe, in the 3d of Elizabeth, to deliver it to Andrew Ogard.

After this it came to the Coneys. John Coney lived here in the reign of Henry VIII. and Thomas Coney, eſq. of Sutton in Lincolnſhire, was father of William Coney, eſq. of Walpole, who bore ſable, a feſs between two cottiſes, or, and three coneys ſejant, argent: the creſt, a talbot's head couped, iſſuing out of a mural coronet, or.

This William was a juſtice of the peace, and by Abigail his wife, daughter of —— Tilſon, of Gedney, had a ſon Robert, who married Alice, daughter of ſir Robert Barkham, knt. of Waynfleet in Lincolnſhire, and was father of Robert, a minor in 1664, who dying *ſans* iſſue, William Coney, eſq. his brother was his heir, and by Edith daughter of ſir Humphey Edwin, lord mayor of London in 1697, was father of Edwin Coney, eſq. high ſheriff of Norfolk in 1734, whoſe ſon, Robert Coney, eſq. formerly a captain of the army, and lieutenant colonel in the Norfolk militia while on ſervice in the late war, and one of the commiſſioners of appeals, is the preſent lord.

St. Peter's church is one of moſt beautiful pariſh churches in England, built of freeſtone, conſiſting of a nave, two iſles and a chancel, all covered with

lead. At the weſt end ſtands a noble, ſtately tower of ſtone, embattled.

On the ſtone work of the ſouth porch, as you enter, are the arms of Goddard, and Denver, quarterly, with Goddard's creſt, an eagle's head erect; and on the ſtone-work towards the eaſt end, near the great arch, the arms of Rochford. Theſe families were the chief benefactors to the building of the church, which was about the beginning of the reign of king Henry VI. In the year 1423 we find the windows to be glazed and ſet up.

At the eaſt end of this ſouth iſle lie ſeveral marble grave-ſtones.

Hic jacet Robertus Coney, Armiger, de Walpole, in comit. Norf. qui ex uxore Alicia, filia Rob. Barkham de Wainfleet, in comit. Lincoln. Equitis auratj; 8 *filios et* 6 *filias ſuſcepit, Norfolciam, A°.* 1673, *Vicecomes tuebatur, vir in patriam devotus, in Deum devotiſſimus, in regem fidelis, in ſuos liberalis, in alios benevolus, in probos ſuavis, in malos ſeverus, in omnes humanus; obt.* 5, *Apr.* 1707, *ætat.* 72.

On the ſummit are the arms of Coney, ſable, a feſs between two cottiſes, or, and three coneys ſejant, argent, impaling Barkham, argent, three pallets, gules, and a chevron over all, or.

Another—*In memory of Robert Cony, ſon of Robert Cony, Eſq. and Alice his wife, &c. who died Nov.* 8, 1683, *aged* 21.

One—*In memory of Alice, wife of Robert Cony, Eſq. who died Oct.* 3, 1676, *ætat.* 41.

Alſo

Alſo one—*In memory of William Cony, Eſq. ſon of Robert Cony, Eſq. and Alice his wife, &c. who died Jan. 6, 1742, aged 82: who married Edith, daughter of Sir Humphrey Edwin, Kt. of the city of London:* With the arms of Coney, impaling ———, a croſs flory engrailed between four birds.

On the windows of the north iſle are the arms of Goddard, Denver, Howard, of the Eaſt Angles, and the ſee of Ely, the triangular emblem of the Trinity, St. George's arms, and argent, a ſaltier, vert. Noon. Alſo argent, a chevron between three wolves heads eraſed, gules. Lovell. Here were alſo, argent, a chevron, between three griffins heads eraſed, gules, Tilney, Rochford and Goddard, impaling Denvers.

The eaſt end of this iſle is taken in by a ſcreen, and was the chapel and burial place of the Rochfords. On the pavement lies a large marble graveſtone, whereon has been a long great croſs of braſs, ſtanding on a pedeſtal of four ſteps, with a croſs on the head of it, and ſix ſhields, three on each ſide, all reaved, as is the inſcription, which was on a rim of braſs round it, of which this only remains:

Hic jacet Willm. filius — — — — conſtabularij caſtri de Wiſbeache — — Januarij A°. Dni. Mill°.

This is ſaid to be in memory of William, only ſon of ſir John Rochford, who left three daughters and coheirs.

South of this ſtands a large altar monument, ornamented with curious braſs work, and the effigies of a knight in armour, a lion at his feet; with that of his lady, and a dog at her feet; over his head

are two ſhields, with Rochford's arms and a fleur de lys, in the firſt and fourth quarter; the two ſhields over the lady are gone, and ſo is the rim of braſs that went round it, with its inſcription, this only remaining:

— — — — — — — — — *Domina Matilda, uxor ej. que obijt* — — — *Anno Dni. Milleſimo, tricenteſimo, ſexageſimo nono.*

Weaver ſays this is the monument of ſir Ralph Rochford, knt. This ſir Ralph, as we have before obſerved, was ſon of ſir Saier de Rochford, and married Matilda, daughter and coheir, as is ſaid, of a Walpole.

The eaſt window of this chapel is beautified with the effigies of many ſaints, &c. at the bottom of the pannels are the portraitures of a man in armour on his knees; on his ſurtout, argent, a bend ingrailed, azure, and a chief gules: this we take to be for Ralph lord Cromwell, lord Tateſhale, governor of Riſing caſtle in the time of Henry VI. and that of his wife, who appears by her arms, on her veſt or inward garment, to be a Rochford, quarterly, or, and gules, &c. and on her outward garment, the arms of Cromwell. Alſo the portraiture of a Rochford in armour, with the ſhield of Rochford, and an annulet ſable, in the ſecond quarter; and his lady with the arms of Goddard, on her inward veſt, with an annulet, azure, on the breaſt of the eagle. Another portraiture of a Rochford, and a lady with the arms of Rochford on her outward veſt, and of Cromwell (though obſcure) on her inward veſt.

On a braſs plate,—*Si quæris advena, ſuas hic depoſuit reliquias Barnabas Frenchamus, juvenis ultra annos pius,*

pius, ſupra vires ſedulus, cujus in interitu, duplex hoc potuit malum, herede patrem orbare et conjuge. Proh flebile fatum conſumptio rapuit filium et triſtitia conjugem. Tam chari pignoris damnum, non prius deflere deſtitit lucluoſa parens, quam eundem cum filio tumulum habuet, et in cælo, ſolium, audijt Deus, et dedit; obijt filius Auguſti 25°. mater Novemb. 15, A°. 1652, A°. Æt. 87.

On a marble grave-ſtone—argent, three lozenges, azure, each charged with an eſcalop, or; creſt a ſtag's head eraſed, with a branch in his mouth,—*Hart.*

H. S. E. Gulielmus Hart, clericus, rector et vicarius de Walpole, digniſſimus, rectoris munus, per unum et quinquaginta, vicarij per duos et quadraginta annos fideliter executus eſt, officio ſatisfecit; Theologus ad primævæ religionis norman fide, moribuſq; incorruptiſſimus, ingenij, facundiæ, pietatis laude florentiſſimus, variæq; eruditionis elegantia, ornatiſſimus vir. Vitæ ad amuſſin diſpoſitu atq; ordinatæ ſanctitas, ſumma comitas, par ab omnibus diligebatur, colebatur, probiſſimus, graviſſimus, venerabilis ſenex. Amicitia ejus nihil fidelius, ſermonibus nihil jucundius, nihil doctius, perpetua mentis, corporiſq; ſanitate et vigore uſus eſt, et in ipſo fere ætatis flore tantum non octogenarius deceſſit. In altiſſima tranquillitate, pariq; veneratione ad mortalitatis finem pervenit menſis Maij die 2d°. A. D. 1726, ætat. ſuæ LXXIX—*Juxta jacent Alicia Hart, Gulielmi et Suſannæ filia, quæ decem annos nata, animam Deo reddidit, et Gulielmus eorund. nepos, Gulielmi et Mariæ Hart de Boſton, in com. Linc. filius primogenitus ad cælum redide maturavit quinq; menſes natus, infantulus.*

The aſcent to the communion table conſiſts of many ſteps, under it is an arch, which will contain many horſes, for the uſe of thoſe pariſhoners who are

are obliged by the badneſs and length of the ways, to come on horſeback to church.

The preſent rector is the Rev. William Everard, of Lynn, preſented by the crown in 1743.

St. Andrew's church is a regular well built pile, conſiſting of a nave, a north and ſouth iſle, a chancel, with a ſouth porch, all covered with lead. At the weſt end is a ſquare ſteeple, with four bells.

The ſea bank at this town from St. Helen's chapel next Terrington, to Novech gate in Weſt Walton, is three miles in length.

At a place called Croſs Keys in this pariſh, is a paſſage over the waſhes, at the mouth of the river Nene, to Long Sutton in Lincolnſhire, (when the tide is out, and before its reflux) for horſes and carriages, and king John paſſing over here into Lincolnſhire a little time before his death, not obſerving this, loſt moſt of his baggage, or carriages, by the reflux of the tide.

The paſſage over the waſhes from ſide to ſide is two miles, but at a proper time of the tide the water to be croſſed is of no great breadth; the channel being very narrow.

WALSOKEN. RAMSEY ABBOT'S, or POPENHOW MANOR. The principal manor of this town was given to the abbey of Ramſey, in Huntingdonſhire, by Ailwin, duke of the Eaſt Angles, alſo ſtiled, Alderman of the Eaſt Angles, on his founding of that abbey in 1069, by the name of Five Hides, in Walſoken, and was confirmed to that houſe by king Edgar. The ſaid abbey held it at the grand ſurvey by

by the name of The Land of St. Bennet of Ramſey; the abbey being dedicated to that great patron of the monaſtic order.

On the diſſolution of this abbey it came to the crown, and was granted by king Henry VIII. February 26, in his 36th year, by the name of Popenhow, alias Walſoken manor, with the advowſon of the rectory, to ſir Thomas Wrotheſley, and ſir Richard Southwell, (which ſir Richard was one of the king's viſitors of the abbeys, priories, &c.) with all the rights and privileges enjoyed by the abbots, and as ſpecified in the 14th of Edward I. by a *Quo Warranto*.

On the 25th of January, in the 24th of Elizabeth, it was conveyed by ſir Richard Southwell to Thomas Barrow, eſq. of Cranworth in Norfolk.

It was conveyed July 15, 1669, to John Colville, eſq. and his ſon Joſiah ſold it in 1685 to John Creed, eſq. of Oundle in Northamptonſhire, in whoſe family it remains, 1778.

MARSHE'S, or ELY MANOR. Here was a manor called Marſhe's, from the family of De Mariſco, who held lands of the ſee of Ely, and of the abbot of Ramſey.

In the year 1277, the biſhop of Ely was the capital lord, had the lete, return of writs, cognizance of all pleas, when it is ſaid that the whole town entered commoners in Weſt Fen, and were to clean their portions of the Podike, five furlongs and ſixteen perches. The biſhop, and the abbot of Ramſey, had each a moiety of the ſea wreck, royal fiſheries, &c. with free warren.

In

In the 8th of Henry VI. ſir John Colville, of Newton, had an inquiſition, *ad quod damnum*, on his ſettling five meſſuages, one hundred and ten acres of land, in Newton, Leverington, Wiſbech, Elme, and a fiſhery called Depewear, in Wiſbech, on a chauntry in the church of Newton, and died as is ſaid about the 24th of Henry VI. leaving ſir John Colville his ſon and heir, who married Ann, daughter of ſir Henry Ingels, of Dilham in Norfolk, and died in the 4th year of king Henry VII. and in the 9th of the ſaid king it appears ſhe was re-married to ſir Robert Brandon.

Francis Colville, eſq. ſucceeded his brother ſir John, and died ſeiſed of this manor in the 9th year, and then a knight, leaving Richard his ſon and heir, by Catherine, daughter of John Townſhend, of Rainham in Norfolk, eſq. which Richard, by an inquiſition taken at Thetford, November 2, in the 17th of Henry VIII. was found to die September 5 in the ſaid year, ſeiſed of this manor, and that of Newton.

John Colville, eſq. is ſaid to have been a goldſmith of London, and purchaſed the manor of Popenhow in this town, and had by Dorothy his wife, daughter of ——, biſhop of London, Joſiah Colville, eſq. of Lincoln's-Inn, London, in 1685, then aged 27, died at Wiſbech December 25, 1705, and was buried at Newton, leaving Ann his ſiſter and heir. Richard Colville, eſq. of Newton in the Iſle of Ely, is the preſent lord.

The church of Walſoken is dedicated to All Saints, and has a nave, north and ſouth iſle, with a chancel covered with lead; at the weſt end is a tower, with a ſpire of free-ſtone.

Againſt

Againſt the wall of the ſteeple, facing the nave of the church, is the effigies of king Solomon, ſitting in a chair, or throne, in royal robes, projecting from the wall, and on each ſide of him, a large piece of painting, repreſenting the hiſtory and judgment of that king, on the two harlots; and at the eaſt end of the nave that of king David, with his harp; and under it the picture of king Charles I.

On the pavement here a grave-ſtone:—*M. S. Petri Wenſley, Generoſi, Rob. Wenſley, clerici, filii, qui obt.* 18°. *Martij, A. D.* 1711, *æt.* 28, *hec non Eleanoræ conjugis, ipſius quæ morti ceſſit* 13, *Julij æt* 25. *Juxta hos inhumatur Rob. Petri frater, ob. Oct.* 4, 1733. *æt.* 49, and this ſhield, ——, four eſcallops, with their heads meeting in the feſs point, ——, impaling ——, a chevron between three mullets, on a chief, three bucks heads caboſed.

Near this, one—*In memory of Elizabeth Wenſley, widow, and only daughter of Peter Robertſon, of Cheſhunt in Hertfordſhire, Eſq. relict of Robert Wenſley of the ſaid town, clerk, who dyed Sept.* 26, 1697, *aged* 47.

The font is curiouſly ornamented with imagery work of many ſaints, our Saviour's paſſion, and the ſeven ſacraments of the church of Rome; and round the foot of it

Remember the ſoul of S. Honyter and Margaret his wife, and John Beſorth, chaplain.

A grave-ſtone—*In memory of Thomas, ſon of Edw. Southwell, Gent. and Alice his wife, grandſon to Rob. Wenſley, who died March* 11, 1692, *aged* 25 *years.*

One

One for—*Rob. Wenſley of Walſoken, Gent. buried November* 3, 1691, *aged* 77.

Alſo for—*Alice wife of Rob. Wenſley, Gent. who dyed Nov.* 9, 1678, *aged* 65.

One for—*Mary, wife of John Gardener, of Wiſbeach, Gent. daughter of Rt. Wenſley, Gent. died Nov.* 4, 1691, *aged* 40 *years.*

Grave-ſtones alſo—*In memory of William Edwards, of Walſoken, Gent. who died May* 29, 1680, *in his* 46 *year; and for Steph. Edwards, his ſon, who died Jan.* 30, 1709, *aged* 34.—*For Eliz. late wife of William Edwards, Gent. who died May* 31, 1701, *aged* 53.

Alſo for—*Thomas Edwards, Gent. who dyed Aug.* 13, *æt.* 73.

On a mural monument—*Near this place lye interred the bodies of John Herring, M. A. thirty-ſix years rector of this pariſh, aged* 75, *buried June* 2, 1717, *and of Martha his wife, daughter of Thomas Potts, of the pariſh of St. Gregory's, London, aged* 44, *buried Jan* 3, 1704.

This monument is erected in gratefull memory of his excellent parents, by their only ſon Thomas, Lord Archbiſhop of Canterbury, 1750.

Dr. Thomas Herring, was firſt archbiſhop of York, where in the year of the Scotch rebellion, 1745, he greatly diſtinguiſhed himſelf for his loyalty and ſpirit, and was afterwards tranſlated to the ſee of Canterbury. He was born at Walſoken, in the reign of king William III. 1693; was an amiable prelate throughout life, and died greatly regret-

ted

ted by the clergy in general, and in particular by the clergy of the city of London. His grace was educated at Bennet College in Cambridge, which has given many biſhops, nominated from maſters of that college, to the ſee of Norwich. Amongſt the reſt in the laſt century Dr. Richard Jagon, who was twelve years maſter of that college, and who died biſhop of Norwich, and was buried at Aylſham in 1617. He was a man of learning, and a man of humour: while maſter of Bennet he puniſhed the under-graduates for ſome offence, and with the fine he laid upon them whited the hall of the college, upon which one of the ſtudents wrote upon the ſcreens

" Dr. Jagon, Bennet-college maſter,
" Broke the ſcholars *heads*, and gave the hall a
" *plaiſter*."

The doctor on reading it wrote under,

" Knew I but the wag, who writ theſe verſes in
" a bravery,
" I would *commend* him for his *wit*, and *whip* him
" for his *knavery*.

In this pariſh was a chapel, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, at the place called the Staith-Ditch, in which was a famous guild, or fraternity, with cuſtos, or maſter.

In 1461, Eborardus was cuſtos, as he ſtiles himſelf, of the chapel and hoſpital of the Holy Trinity of Walſoken.

Pope Urban VI. Boniface IX. Martin V. Paul II. and Sixtus V. granted to the brothers and ſiſters of this

this fraternity, and to all who were benefactors to it, ſurpriſing indulgences, as will appear from what we have here ſubjoined, taken from a rude and imperfect copy of a deed of admiſſion of two perſons into this fraternity, under the ſeal of the aforeſaid Eborard.

" Univerſis S'ce matris eccl'ie filijs ad quos p'ſen-
" tes litter. p'venerint, Eborard. cuſtos capelle et
" hoſpitalis S'ce Trinitatis de Walſoken, Norwic.
" dioc. et ejuſd. loci confratres et conſorores ſalut.
" in D'no. ſe'pitern. voverit univerſitas veſtra vene-
" randa qd. piiſſimus in Xto. pater et Dominus noſ-
" ter D'nus Urban. divina miſeratione Papa Sextus,
" de plenitudine ſue pietat. nobis indulſit qd. eis qui
" de facultatib; ſuis, &c. nobis ſubvenerit, et in
" ſanctam ſocietatem noſtram ſtatuerunt ſe collegas,
" nobis — — — que beneficia præſtiterint,
" annuatim ſepti'am partem pœnitent. — relaxa-
" vit tres annos et centum dies venie totiens quoti-
" ens hoc fecerunt vel meruerint, conceſſit ac eciam
" plenariam participat. omnium miſſar. et aliar. ora-
" tion. ſpiritual. que fiunt et de cet. fient in univer-
" ſati eccleſia. ad quas p'tin. fuerint interdict. ipſis
" qu. mori contigerit niſi excommuni. vel no'iati in-
" terdicti aut publici uſurarij fuerint eccleſiaſtica ſe-
" pultura eis non negabitur et curati eor. qui ha-
" bent curas a'imar'q; ſuar. poſſint eos abſolvere ab
" omnib; eor. peccat. contritis et confeſſis, ac etiam
" oblitis, niſi forte talia com'iſerint p'pr. que ſedes
" apoſtolica ſit merito conſulenda, quas quidem con-
" ceſſiones ſanctiſſi. in Xto, patres Bonifacius Papa
" non. Martinus quintus, Paulus ſecund. et Sixtus
" papa quintus miſericorditr. p. ampli. confirmat.
" confirmavi et qd. dilecti. nobis in Chriſto Tho.
" Hutton — — — Dekkys, caritat. ſubſidia
" nobis donaver. in dictam confraternitatem noſtram

" eos

" eos aſſumimus, et intr. noſtros confratres Xti. pau-
" peres — — amus eos — in Deo poſſumus
" omnium bonor. ſpiritualium intr. nos confratres
" habitor. et in poſterum habendor. miſſar. et alior.
" omn. jejunior. vigiliar. abſtinentiar. elemoſinar. et
" peregrinat. participes eſſe volumus p. p'ſentes. In
" cujus rei teſtimon. ſigill. cuſtod. hoſpital. noſtri
" p'dicti p'ſentib; eſt appenſum. Dat. apd. Walſo-
" kenin capella n'ra, ſecto die Octob. Anno. D'ni.
" Milleſimo CCCC. LXXXL."

The ſeal is oblong, having under an arch, the effigies or repreſentation of God the father, ſupporting our Saviour on the croſs, as was frequently and profanely uſed in the church of Rome; below that the cuſtos at prayers, with a legend, " Sigill. —
" confrat. et conſoror. — Trinit. de Walſoken."

The abſolution on the admiſſion of a brother, &c. was

" Auctoritate Dei Omnipot. et beator. Petri et
" Pauli ac auctoritate apoſtolica mihi in hac parte
" commiſſa, Ego Te abſolvo ob omnib; peccatis p.
" te vere contritis et mihi confeſſis, nec non ab om-
" nib; peccatis tuis oblitis de quib; velles confiteri
" ſi tue occur rerit memorie ac ſeptimam partem pæ-
" nitent. Auctoritate literer. et poſtolicar. conceſſar.
" relaxo, in nomine patris, &c."

By a like deed, John Berners, eſq. was admitted in 1476, who was ſecond ſon of Thomas Berners, eſq. ſecond ſon of ſir John Berners, lord Berners, who married a daughter and coheir of ſir Henry Bruin, of South Okendon in Eſſex.

The title of Berners, an old barony, is now in obeyance. It was claimed and allowed by the Houſe of Peers to the late Catherine Knevett, lady Berners, who many years reſided at Heigham near Norwich: her daughter married —— Wilſon, eſq. brother of John Wilſon, eſq. of Stanhoe, and father to Henry William Wilſon, eſq. of Dudlington in the hundred of South Greenhoe, formerly an officer in the late ſir Robert Rich's regiment of dragoons, and ſerved in the war of 1744, in Flanders. The Hon. Mrs. Wilſon his mother is ſtill living: She had a brother in the army, captain Knevett, who would have ſucceeded to the title had he outlived the lady Berners his mother, but he died before her, the baroneſs living to a great age.

Walſoken ſea bank from Newgate-ſlough to Emneth ſea dike, was three miles in length.

WALTON, WEST, that is, a town by the wall or mound which was to defend it from the tides, &c. and called Weſt in reſpect to another Walton in this hundred, &c. lying eaſt of it.

The PRIOR of LEWES's MANOR. On the diſſolution of the priory of Lewes, Robert the laſt prior, granted this lordſhip, that of Walſoken, &c. by fine, paſſed in at St. Michaelmas term, to king Hen. VIII. in his 29th year; and on the 22d of December in the ſaid year, the king granted it to Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk, together with the mediety of the church belonging to the ſaid priory, to be held *in capite* by knight's ſervice; but was forfeited to the crown afterwards, on the attainder of the duke of Norfolk; and was granted July 1, by queen Elizabeth, in her 23d year, to Philip Howard, earl of Arundel, ſon of Thomas the late duke, which

which Philip being alſo attainted, it came to the crown, and was granted November 22, in the 6th year of king James I. to Thomas earl of Suffolk.

And on December 1, in the 10th of king James I. this lordſhip with that of Walſoken and Walpole, late belonging to the prior of Lewes, was conveyed to John Hare, eſq. ſon of John Hare, mercer of London, (brother of ſir Nicholas Hare) by Dorothy his wife; which John Hare, by Margaret his wife, daughter of John Croch, of Cornbury in Hertfordſhire, eſq. had Hugh Hare, who was created lord of Colraine in Ireland, Auguſt 3, 1625, and by Lucy, daughter of Henry earl of Mancheſter, had Henry lord Colraine, who by Conſtantia, daughter of ſir Richard Lucy, of Broxbourn in Hertfordſhire, bart. had Hugh Hare, eſq. who died before his father, and left by Lydia his wife, daughter of Matthew Carleton, of Edmunton in Middleſex, eſq. Henry Hare his ſon, born May 11, 1693, lord of Colraine, who married Conſtantia, daughter of Mr. Hanger, of London, merchant.

On the death of the late Henry lord Colraine, in 1749, it came to the crown, as an eſcheat, his heir being a minor and an alien.

James Townſend, eſq. alderman of London, is the preſent lord.

Bishop of Ely's Manor. St. Adeldreda, or St. Audrey, that is the church of Ely, held in the time of king Edward, and at the ſurvey, a lordſhip.

This manor is now held by ſir Martin Folkes, of Hillington, Bart. on a leaſe from the crown.

LOVELL'S MANOR, &c. CLARE FEE. The family of Repps had alſo lands in this town, held of ſeveral lords.

Thomas de Repps was a commiſſioner of ſewers, to view the ſea walls, bridges, and cauſeways along the ſea coaſts, between Wiggenhall, Terrington and Lynn, and to levy money for their repairs, in the 2d year of Edward III. and in the 38th of Henry VI.

In the 24th of Henry VIII. Robert, prior of St. Pancras of Lewes, and the convent demiſed to John Repps, late of Weſt Walton, gent. their manor of Weſt Walton, the ſcite of the manor, houſes, demeſne lands, meadow, feeding paſtures, (except the hall, and two chambers at both ends of the hall) with the garden, the meadow called Bromſtoven, and the new hall, at the yearly rent of 26l. 13s. 4d.

Repps was to farm the ſame, to find the prior's officers, when then they came, oats, hay and beans, as long as they ſtaid; the prior to repair the ſea-banks, ſea dikes, fen dikes, and to pay the king's dues: And in the 31ſt of Henry VIII. the manor of Sybelis, or Syblys, with meſſuages and tenements in Weſt Walton and Walpole, was conveyed to him by fine from Thomas Holland, gent. which manor was late Henry Smith's, Margaret, one of his daughters and co-heirs, being married to this John Repps, another daughter and co-heir to Holland.

By an inquiſition taken at Norwich, October 1, in the 5th of Charles I. it was found that Henry Repps, eſq. died in the 4th of Charles I. on the 23d of March, ſeiſed of a capital meſſuage, three hundred and twenty-four acres of land, of which the

the meſſuage, with fifty-eight acres, was held of the king's manor in Weſt Walton, in ſoccage, and paid 12s. 1d.½ per ann. alſo of ſixteen acres held of Colville's manor, in ſoccage, of fifty-four acres held of Hunſton's manor, in ſoccage, and of one hundred and ninety-ſix acres held of the manor of Weſt Walton, in ſoccage; and the manor of Clare, in Walpole, held of the king, of the honour of Clare, by knight's ſervice, and John was his ſon and heir, aged 18, Sept. 16, in 1629, by Ann, daughter of —— Cotterell, eſq.

John Repps, eſq. died poſſeſſed of it about 1750, leaving three daughters and co-heirs, viz.

1. Frances, married to the Rev. Mr. James Baldwin, formerly of Trinity college in Cambridge, rector of Lyng and Brandon; a clergyman much reſpected by all who have the pleaſure of knowing him.

2, Dorothy, married to George Schutz, eſq. ſon of the late Right Hon. Auguſtus Schutz, one of the privy-counſellors to their majeſties George I. and II. a gentleman of an amiable character, like his father, and a groom of the bed-chamber to the late king.

3. Vertue, married to Edward Haſe, eſq. of Sall, youngeſt ſon of Mr. John Haſe, of Eaſt Derekam.

This John Repps, eſq, of Mattiſhall, on the death of his father in 1723, paid his fine for this manor, which extended into Walpole, and held of the honor of Clare.

The late John Repps, eſq. of Mattiſhall, (by whoſe death the male line of the family became extinct) married Vertue, daughter of James Boardman, eſq. mayor of Lynn in 1717: Margaret, his youngeſt daughter, married his youngeſt daughter and coheireſs, married Benjamin Bromhead, eſq. of Thureby near Lincoln.

The church of Weſt Walton is dedicated to St. Mary; it has a curious free-ſtone tower, ſtanding ſouth of the church about twenty-two yards, in which are five bells, a nave, a north and ſouth iſle, all covered with lead, with a chancel, and conſiſts of two medieties.

In the north iſle is a monument to the memory of John Reppes, eſq. who died Mrch 25, 1561, in the 3d year of queen Elizabeth, with the following inſcription:

Here lyeth John Reppes, of Weſt Walton in the county of Norfolk, Eſq; who deceſſed the 25th day of March in the year of our Lord God M.CCCCCLXI. *which had two wyves, the whiche was Margaret, eldeſt daughter, and one of the heyres of Henry Smythe, by whom he had yſſue Henrye Reppes, that now ys, and ſeven daughters; and hys ſecond wife was Thomaſen, daughter to Thomas Derham, by whom he had Ela and John.*

About this are ſeveral ſhields—ermine, three chevronels, argent, Repps, with a creſt, a plume of feathers, ermine, iſſuing out of a coronet, with a pair of wings, or.—Repps, impaling Heveningham, quarterly, or, and gules, in a bordure engrailed, ſable, of eight eſcallops, argent.—Jermy, argent, a leopard ſalient, guardant, gules, with his creſt, a griffin paſſant,

ſant, gules.—Jermy, impaling Mountenoy, azure, a bend between ſix martlets, or.—Jermy, impaling Worth, argent, on a bend, ſable, three lions heads eraſed of the firſt, crowned, or.—Repps, impaling Jermy; Repps, impaling Holditch, argent, on a chevron, or, two ſeapies proper.—Repps and Smith, (quarterly) or, a bend, azure, between three trefoils ſliped, vert.—Repps, impaling Derham, azure, a buck's head caboſed, or.

There is another monument to the memory of Henry Repps, eſq. ſon of the above John, who married firſt, Dorothy, the daughter of ſir Chriſtopher Jenney, knt. and ſecondly, Elizabeth, the daughter of ſir Francis Lovell, knt. By the firſt he had a daughter, Margaret, afterwards married to Francis Wodehouſe, eſq. and a ſecond daughter who died an infant. By Elizabeth he had four ſons and two daughters; two of his ſons alone ſurvived him.—The Latin inſcription is as follows:

Monumentum viri multiplici eruditione inſingis, ſinceræ pietatis, veræq; juſtitiæ, cultoris egregij, Henrici Reppes, Armigeri, cujus corpus in cineres reſolutum, anima vero in Dei manu ſuperſtes diem reſtitutionis omnium placide expectat. Qui dum patriæ charus in vivis ageret duas fœminas virtute ſpectabiles, et origine illuſtres uxores duxit, nempe Dorotheam filiam Chriſtopheri Jenny, Militis, et Elizabetham filiam Franciſcij Lovell, Militis: Dorothea duas tantum filias partu dedit; Margaretam quæ nuptui tradita fuit Franciſco Woodehowſe, Armigero, et Elizabetham, quæ naturæ debita citiſſime ſolvit; Elizabetha, vero in Dorotheæ vicem parens fœcundior ſuccedens hiſce ſex liberis Henricum auxit, Henrico, Anna, Johanne ſeniore, Thomaſina, Franciſco, Joanne juniore; ex quibus Joh. ſeniore, et Franciſcus hujus lucis uſura modo fruuntur:

untur: Joannes duas ſibi virgines lectiſſimas uxores adjunxit, primum Annam, filiam Henr. Weſton, Militis, deinde Mariam, filiam Richardi Lambert, Armigerj; Franciſcus locatam accepit Janam filiam Humfridi Guybon, Armigeri, tandem ærumnoſæ vitæ metam pertingens, Henric. corporis hujus tabernaculo terreſtri depoſito exequiarum juſtis potitus eſt 10, *die Octob. A°. ab Incarnato Meſſiah*, 1566.

About this are the ſhields of Repps and Smith, impaled, and the creſt of Repps; Wodehouſe, of Waxham, quarterly, ermine and azure, a leopard's head, or, impaling Repps.—Repps and Smith, quarterly, impaling Jenney, ermine, a bend, gules, cootiſed, or.—Repps and Smith, &c. impaling Weſton, ermine, on a chief azure, five bezants.—Repps, &c. impaling Lovell, argent, a chevron, azure, between three ſquirrels, ſejant, gules.—Repps, &c. impaling Lambert, —— on a bend engrailed, between two lions rampant, three annulets.—Repps, &c. impaling Guybon, or, a lion rampant, ſable, over all, on a bend, gules, three eſcallops, argent.

The church of Weſt Walton conſiſted of two medieties, one in the patronage of the biſhop of Ely, the other in the prior and convent of Lewes.

James Townſend, eſq. alderman of London, is patron of one mediety, and the other is in the crown. The Rev. Robert Say, of Swaffham, chaplain to the earl of Orford, and rector of North Pickenham, was preſented to the mediety in the crown, by the Lord Chancellor Henley, earl of Northington, in 1762, and is the preſent rector.

The

The Rev. Richard Whiſh was preſented to the other mediety by James Townſend, eſq. 1777.

Walton ſea bank, from Noveche Gate to Newton Slough, was two miles and an half long.

About a mile weſt of Walton church is a ferry over Wiſbech river to the Iſle of Ely ſide, and a ford which may at certain times of the tide be croſſed on horſeback. The ferry-houſe on the Iſle of Ely ſide, is half a mile eaſt of the turnpike-road from Wiſbech to Long Sutton, and near the pariſh of Newton, the eſtate of Richard Colville, eſq. and about ſeven miles from Dunton, the eſtate of ſir Clement Trafford in Lincolnſhire, croſs the Shire Drain.

On the *weſt* ſide of Wiſbech river, and in the iſle of Ely, are two hundred acres of land belonging to the pariſh of Weſt Walton and county of Norfolk; and, on the *eaſt* ſide of the ſame river, next to Walpole ſalt-marſhes, are ſeventy acres, embanked, called Tid-marſh Farm, which belong to the pariſh of Tid St. Giles in the iſle of Ely and county of Cambridge, which may be ſeen accurately delineated in Mr. Armſtrong's map of Norfolk.

WIGGENHALL St. GERMAIN's. William de Scohies had conſiderable lordſhips in Iſlington, and in Clenchwarton at the ſurvey, that extended, as it ſeems, into this town, and ſoon after came to Walter Giffard, earl of Buckingham, whoſe ſon Walter, and his counteſs, gave to the monks of the church of Norwich, ſerving God at Lynn, the church of St. Germain's of Wiggenhall, together with a certain payment of 5s. per ann. which their chaplains received out of the ſame.

FITTON'S MANOR. The antient family of Fitton were very early enfeoffed herein.

The manor of Fitton's is now in the corporation of Lynn, and the hundred-court is ſaid to have been antiently held at Fitton oak in this manor.

Part of the manor of Fitton's in this town came to ſir William Howard, by the marriage of Alice, one of the daughters of ſir Edmund, and ſiſter and co-heir to ſir John de Fitton, which ſir William had conſiderable eſtates in theſe towns, as deſcended from the antient family of De Wigenhale, who took their names from theſe towns. As the noble family of the Howards, dukes of Norfolk, earls of Suffolk, Berkſhire, Carliſle, Stafford, Effingham, &c. derive their deſcent from this truly great and eminent perſon, it will be excuſable in us if we mention ſome things relating to this family, which, as far as we have ſeen, have not been obſerved by other authors.

The firſt that we meet with of the ancient family of de Wigenhale, is Peter, whoſe ſon, Simon de Wigenhale, was found to owe half a mark for exporting corn without a licence, in the 24th of Henry II. 1178; and at the ſame time Robert Paſſelew owed half a mark, Alured and Surerd de Lenne, half a mark on the ſame account.

In an old pedigree of the family of the Howards, in Caius College, Cambridge, Fulco or Fulk, ſtands at the head of it. Of this Fulco we find no account or voucher, that he bore the name of Wigenhale; but that Jeffrey was ſon of Fulco appears from certain deeds, alſo that Alan was ſon of Jeffrey;

rey; that William was ſon of Alan, appears alſo from antient deeds.

In the 8th of Richard I. 1197, a fine was levied between Peter, ſon of Richard de Wigenhale, querent, and William, ſon of Alan de Clenchwarton, tenent, of four carucates of land in Wiggenhall, Clenchwarton, Tilney, Lynn, Iſlington, &c. granted to Peter, who re-conveyed them to Alan.

This conſiderable parcel of land is ſaid to belong to the fees of ſeveral lords, viz. of Simon Fitz-Richard, who held of the earls of Clare; of Peter de Bexwell, who held of the church of Ely; of the abby of Bury; of the priory of Lewes; of the earl of Britain's fee; of the earl Warren's; of Godfrey de Liſewis, (that is, the earl Montfort's fee) &c. and William grants to Peter and his heirs, the tenement which Richard his father held of him in Wiggenhall, with lands in Tilney called Potter's Croſt.

It is very probable that this Peter, ſon of Richard de Wigenhale, was ſome near relation to William, ſon of Alan de Clenchwarton, by this truſt repoſed in him in this fine.

This William is ſaid to have aſſumed the name of de Wigenhale; but by the fine above he rather, at that time, ſeems to bear the ſame name with his father, viz. de Clenchwarton; but this is no objection, or argument againſt his taking up afterwards the name of de Wigenhale.

They who are converſant in very antient deeds, &c. may often obſerve, that perſons who held different

ferent tenures or lordſhips, often varied their names according to the names of the towns wherein thoſe their lordſhips lay, and their ſons followed the ſame practice, not always taking the name of their father, but from the lordſhip of ſome town wherein they were enfeoffed.

This therefore makes a great difficulty in the ſettling of antient pedigrees, when theſe practices and cuſtoms were ſo prevailing and common.

Richard Everard, by his will dated May 20, 1569, gave the manor of Fittons, to John Everard; and by an inquiſition taken at Hoxne the laſt day of March in the 15th of Elizabeth, on the death of John Everard, the jury find that he died ſeiſed of it, twelve meſſuages, three hundred acres of land, one hundred of meadow, two hundred of paſture, ten of wood, one hundred of moor, two hundred of marſh, and forty ſhilling rent in Wiggenhall St. Germain's, and Iſlington, on December 15 laſt paſt, without iſſue, and that Henry Everard, of Linſtead in Suffolk, was his couſin and heir, all which were held of the lord Latimer and ſir Robert Wingfield, by fealty, and the payment of 1s. per ann.

This manor was lately poſſeſſed by ſir Robert Brown, bart.

The church is dedicated to St. Germain, was formerly a rectory, but being appropriated to the office of the cellarer in the church of Norwich, by John de Grey, biſhop of Norwich, a vicarage was ſettled, which was in the preſentation of the priory of Norwich, and is now in the dean and chapter, and the great tithes were let to ſir Robert Brown, bart.

It

It conſiſts of a nave, and a ſouth iſle covered with lead, and a north iſle with tiles, and a chancel.

Some time paſt the floor of the church was found to be at leaſt eight feet below the high water mark of the adjoining Ouſe. The tower is four ſquare, and there are four bells.

Here is a bridge over the river Ouſe into Marſh-land. St. German's is ſituated about four miles from Lynn, on a turnpike-road that is carried on to Wiſbech.

The Rev. Thorogood Upwood was preſented to this vicarage by the dean and chapter of Norwich in 1749.

WIGGENHALL ST. MARY. Hermerus de Ferrariis, who had, by the gift of the Conqueror, lordſhips in Tilney and Iſlington, was alſo lord here; thoſe manors extending here, which came after to the lords Bardolph,

The ancient family of Capravill, or Kervile, held the chief manor in this town of the lords Bardolph, and had their ſeat, or reſidence, here.

Thomas Kervile, eſq. was lord in the year 1407, and Mary his wife was daughter and co-heir of Gilbert Haultoft, of the Iſle of Ely, baron of the exchequer in the time of Henry VI. Humphry was his ſon and heir, who married Alice, or Ann, daughter of John Fincham, eſq. of Fincham, by whom he had Humphry his ſon and heir, who married Ann, daughter of Jeffrey Cobbe, eſq. of Sandringham in Norfolk, and had three ſons and ſeven daughters.

Thomas

Thomas his eldeſt, William his ſecond, and Edmund the third, who married Catherine, daughter of William Saunders, eſq. She married to her ſecond huſband John Spelman, eſq. of Narburgh, and to her third Miles Corbet, eſq.

Alice Kervile, a daughter, married firſt John Bedingfield, eſq. and afterwards ſir John Sulyard, knt. Elizabeth married Robert Bozoun, eſq. of Whiſſonſett, eſq. Eleanor to —— Neal, eſq. Joan to John Shouldham, eſq. Catherine to —— Gawſell, eſq. Margaret, firſt married Nicholas Dean, of Wiggenhall, gent. and afterwards John Shorditch, alias Bexwell, eſq. of Bexwell, and Mary to ——.

Thomas Kervile, eſq. the eldeſt ſon, married Alice, daughter of ſir Henry Bedingfield, of Oxburgh, by whom he had Henry Kervile, eſq. who by Winefred his wife, daughter of ſir Anthony Thorold, knt. and relict of George Clifton, eſq. of Nottinghamſhire; her third huſband was ſir Edward Gawſell, knt. and ſir Henry Kervile, who married Mary, daughter of Franc. Plowden, eſq. by whom he had two children, who died in their infancy. He was a bigoted papiſt, and about November 1620, was accuſed by ſir Chriſtopher Heydon, knt. that the papiſts met at his houſe, in order to ſubſcribe to aid and aſſiſt the emperor, againſt the king of Bohemia, when king James I. requeſted a loan (for the recovery of the Palatinate) from the nobility and gentry of England, whereupon he was ſent for to the council table, impriſoned ſome time, and his papers ſeized, but was afterwards releaſed.

Sir Henry Spelman ſays, that on his death (1624) the eſtate of the Kerviles came into the family of the

the Cobbes, of Sandringham, but 'tis certain it did not continue long ſo.

In the 21ſt of king Charles I. John Williamſon, gent. had a præcipe to deliver it to Gregory Gawſell, eſq. who was eldeſt ſon of Thomas Gawſell, eſq. of Watlington, and dying unmarried in 1656, this lordſhip came to Hatton Berners, eſq. (ſon of Arthur Berners, eſq. of Finchingfield in Eſſex, by Elizabeth his wife, eldeſt ſiſter of Gregory Gawſell aforeſaid) who was high ſheriff of Norfolk in 1666, and on his death in 1713, it deſcended to Gregory his eldeſt ſon, who dying unmarried in 1715, his brother William was his heir, who married and had ſeveral children, and dying in 1727, this eſtate was ſoon after ſold in order to pay his debts, to ſir Robert Brown, bart. who was his majeſty's reſident or conſul at Venice, and created a baronet in the 5th of king George II. was a member of parliament for Ilcheſter in Somerſetſhire, and in the year 1741 appointed pay maſter of all his majeſty's works, and lord of this town. His arms, gules, a chevron, between three fleurs de lys, or—creſt, on a wreath, a demy lion rampant, gules, in his dexter paw a fleur de lys, as before—motto, "Gaugeo." He died October 5, 1760, leaving a widow and two daughters.

At a place called Wathden, or Waterden, in this pariſh, ſerjeant Goddard obſerves there was to be ſeen in his time ſome remains of a church, alſo bones that appear at a low ebb upon the river ſide.

The old hall, or manor-houſe, was a large building of brick, with a good tower, or gate-houſe, embattled and built by the Kerviles, with their arms thereon,

thereon; the greateſt part of it is pulled down, and inhabited by a tenant.

WESTACRE PRIORY MANOR. In the 14th of Edward I. Hubert, prior of Weſtacre, held lands here.

On the diſſolution it came to the crown; and in the 3d and 4th of Philip and Mary, lands belonging to this houſe, in the tenure of John Saunderſon, were granted to ſir John Perrot, on July 2; but the appropriated rectory was granted by queen Elizabeth, in her 2d year, July 2, to John Harrington and George Burden, and the patronage of the vicarage remained in the crown.

The biſhop of Ely had a little homage here of ſeveral free tenants, probably belonging to his manor Weſt Walton, which extended here, but it had not lete.

The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a very regular pile, having a body, a north and ſouth iſle, and a chancel; the nave, or body, is thatched, the iſles, and a ſouth porch, covered with lead: in the ſteeple, which is four-ſquare, are five bells.

On a black marble wall-piece this inſcription:

"Hic deponitur corpus Henrici Kervilj, equitis "aurati, filij et hæredis Henrici Kervillj, Armig. de "Winefreda conjuge ſua, Antonij Thorold, militis, "filia procreati; uxorem duxit Mariam, Franciſcj "Plowden, Armig. gnatam, e qua prolem binam, "ſed in cunabulis extinctam ſuſcepit, Gervaſium "ſcilicet et Mariam; ſororem habuet unicam, An-"nam Rob°. Thorald, Armig. nuptam, ſine exitu "defunctam,

" defunctam, 26 Junij, 1624, obijt, et in illo anti-
" qui ſui-ſtemmatis Kervillorum nomen; Quam re-
" liquit conjux vita, eum ſequuta eſt, conſors morte
" Martij 6to eodem anno.

On a marble ſtone lying near the eaſt end of this iſle:

Here lye the bodies of Grace and Katherine, daughters of Hatton Berners, Eſq; and Bridget his wife, the only ſiſter of Sir Simon Leach, of Devonſhire, Kt. of the Bath; Grace dyed the 16*th of July* 1682, *aged above* 4 *years, the other the* 10*th of November* 1680, *aged* 4 *months.—Alſo the bodies of William and Mary, the ſon and daughter of William Berners. Eſq; he dyed* 13*th of April* 1718, *aged* 4 *months; ſhe the* 1*ſt of April* 1719. *aged* 4 *months.*

In the chancel eaſt window is gules, a feſs between ſix croſs croſslets, or, Beauchamp; and on a canton, a maunch, gules, the arms of Tony, and antiently ſable, a chevron, ermine, between three croſs croſslets botony fitchee, and the lord Scales.

On a marble grave-ſtone in the chancel, with the arms of Berners, quarterly, vert and or, impaling ermine, on a chief indented gules, three ducal coronets, or, Leach:

Here lyeth the body of Hatton Berners, Eſq; who dyed November 23, 1713, *aged* 73.

Another with the arms of Berners:—*In memory of Simon, firſt ſon of Hatton Berners, Eſq; who dyed* 1693, *aged* 18, *and Bridget his wife.*

Alſo one for——*Bridget, wife of Hatton Berners, only ſiſter to Sir Simon Leach, of Devonſhire, knight of the Bath, ſhe dyed January* 15, 1705.

One——*In memory of William Berners, Eſq; who dyed June* 9, 1727, *aged — years, and of Jane his wife, who dyed April* 10, 1725, *aged* 41: with the arms of Berners, impaling three lions paſſant, two and one.

Another with the arms of Berners, for—*Gregory Berners, Eſq; who dyed Febrnary* 14, 1715, *aged* 34 *years.*

On the diſſolution it came to the crown, and queen Elizabeth, in her 2d year, July 2, granted this rectory to John Harrington and George Burden.

In 1755, the Rev. John Daville was preſented by the king, and is the preſent vicar, 1779.

SADLEBOW is an hamlet near the river belonging to the pariſh of St. Mary Wiggenhall.

Robert Apreece, Eſq. on July 7, 1662, ſold his manor here to Mr. Daniel Rawlinſon, citizen of London, who by his laſt will in 1667, left it to his eldeſt ſon, ſir Thomas Rawlinſon, afterwards lord mayor of London, by whom it was ſettled in jointure on Mary his wife, daughter of Richard Taylor, eſq. of Chiſwick in Middleſex, 1680; and on her death, in 1724, it came to her eldeſt ſon Thomas; and on his death, to his brother Richard Rawlinſon, L. L. D. of London, who ſold it in November 1735, to ſir Robert Brown, bart, a fee farm rent of five pounds per ann. free from all charges, &c. being reſerved.

ſerved out of it, and granted to the doctor and his heirs for ever.

WIGGENHALL ST. MARY MAGDALEN. The principal lordſhip in this town was in the family of Caprevill, Cherville or Kervile.

We have ſeen a memorandum wrote by Guybon Goddard, eſq. ſerjeant at law, and recorder of Lynn, who was a curious collector of antiquities, and died in 1671, wherein he obſerves in his time, in digging to ſet down a new ſluice a little below Magdalen-fall, which is about half a mile from Magdalen-bridge, on Marſhland ſide, there was found, about ſixteen feet within ſoyl, a grave-ſtone, of about eight feet long, and a cart-wheel near to it; the grave-ſtone is now in Magdalen church yard. Mr. Emerſon, from whom, ſays he, I had this relation, was the man that employed the workmen. Many oaks and firs are daily taken up, and they lie about two or three feet deep under the ſoyl.

All the land in this pariſh is ſaid to be freehold, and certain freehold rents are paid to the lord Fitz-Williams, lord of Kenwick in Tilney, and to ſir Richard Brown, who is lord of Wiggenhall St. Mary's. William de Liſewiſe, who was founder of the priory of Crabhouſe in this town, had a lordſhip here in the reign of Henry II. and in Iſlington and Clenchwarton; by a daughter and co-heir of his grandſon, it came by marriage to the Ingaldeſthorpes, and ſir Edmund de Ingaldeſthorpe died ſeiſed of lordſhips in the aforeſaid towns, 1456, leaving Iſabel his only daughter and heir, married to John Nevill, marquis Montacute, whoſe eſtate being afterwards divided amongſt his five daughters

and co-heirs; this came by Lucy, one of the ſaid daughters and co-heirs, to the family of Fitz-Williams, by her marriage with ſir Thomas Fitz-Williams, of Aldwark in Yorkſhire, in the reign of king Henry VII.

The church of St. Mary Magdalen of Wiggenhall, is a regular good building, conſiſting of a nave, a north and ſouth iſle, with its porch, and a chancel, all covered with lead; at the weſt end ſtands a four-ſquare tower of ſtone.

In this monaſtery the rectory remained, with the patronage of the vicarage, till the diſſolution of it, when in the 29th of Henry VIII. Thomas the prior, conveyed them by fine to that king, and on the 22d of December in the ſaid year, the king granted them to Thomas duke of Norfolk; and the ſaid duke, on the firſt of November in the firſt year of queen Elizabeth, granted by deed to Thomas Welles of this town, the rectory and the advowſon of the vicarage, and Welles preſented in 1565, &c.

By an inquiſition taken at Norwich, January 14, in the 22d of James I. it was found that Thomas Oxborough, eſq. died December 8, in the 21ſt of that king, poſſeſſed of this rectory, ſixty-ſix acres of land, the advowſon of the vicarage, three meſſuages, one cottage, fifteen acres of paſture, and thirty of marſh, in this pariſh and St. Germain's, late parcel of the priory of Caſtleacre, held *in capite* by knight's ſervice.

Thomas was his ſon and heir, by Thomaſine his wife, who held the ſame, and had by Audrey his wife, Hewar Oxborough, his ſon and heir, and Lawrence

Lawrence his ſecond ſon; Hewar dying in 1628, it came to his brother Lawrence, then aged 18.

Mr. Bateſon died poſſeſſed of the rectory and advowſon of the vicarage, and his daughter and heir, Suſannah, being married to Mr. Garforth, vicar, poſſeſſed them in her right.

In 1756, the Rev. Roger Wilſon was preſented by Suſan Garforth, widow.

CRABHOUSE NUNNERY. In this pariſh of Wiggenhall St. Mary Magdalen, on the bank of the river Ouſe, ſouth of the town, was this houſe, (dedicated to St. John the Evangeliſt) of nuns of the order of St. Auguſtine.

It was founded by Roger, the prior, and convent of Rainham, about 1181, with the conſent of William de Liſewiſe, who was lord of the ſcite, and the founder of the little priory called Normanſbergh, in South Rainham.

This William lived in the reign of king Henry II. and held lordſhips in Gately, Rainham, &c. under the Montforts, which family deſcended from Hugh de Monteforti, who was lord alſo of Iſlington, Clenchwarton, &c. (towns adjoining to this) of the gift of the Conqueror, and Liſewiſe held under him.

On the 28th of June, queen Mary in her 1ſt year granted to ſir John Gage, knt. of Suſſex, the ſcite of this priory, gardens, orchard, and demean lands appertaining to it, with the moiety of the tithe of a field called Peter's Field, and a moiety of the rectory of St. Peter's Wiggenhall, with all the meſſuages,

meſſuages, lands, &c. belonging to it in Wiggenhall, Tilney, Iſlington, Setchy, Weſt Winch, Clenchwarton, Lynn, Wimbottiſham, Thorpe, Elme, Emneth, &c. to be held by knight's ſervice.

Sir John by his will, dated February 20, 1555, and proved June 10 following, gives to the vicar of St. Mary Magdalen, Wiggenhall, the tithe of a field here, called part of the demeans of Crabhouſe; the vicar and his ſucceſſors praying for him by name, in the pariſh church every Sunday at high maſs, for evermore.

Sir Edward Gage, his ſon, died ſeiſed of it in 1568; and after him John Gage, eſq. poſſeſſed it; but in the 12th of Elizabeth, Thomas Guilford had licence to alienate the manor of Crabhouſe, with the appurtenances, to Thomas Low; and in the 21ſt of that queen, William Chapman and Robert Wythen, had a pardon for purchaſing it of Low without licence, and in that year Thomas Hanmer had licence to alienate it, with the moiety of St. Peter's Wiggenhall rectory, to Roger Powell.

After this it was poſſeſſed by Mr. John Wright. Sir H. Spelman ſays his ſon conſumed his eſtate, and ſold it to Mr. William Guybon, of Watlington, who held it about 1640.

Of this family was Mrs. Guybon, who married captain Pamplin, of Wallington, by Mildenhall, who ſurviving him, and dying without iſſue, gave it by will to Mrs. Howlet, her companion, who lived with her, and ſhe left it to her nephew, whoſe daughter, or niece, brought it by marriage to Mr. Thorold, the late owner.

WIGGENHALL ST. PETER. As the towns of Wiggenhall St. Mary Magdalen, and St. Mary's, with their churches, ſtand on the weſt ſide of the great river Ouſe, in Marſhland, ſo the towns of St. Peter's and St. Germain's Wiggenhall, with their churches, ſtand on the eaſt ſide of the ſaid river, next that part of the hundred that is called Freebridge citra Lynn.

SHOULDHAM PRIORY MANOR. In the reign of king John, Jeffrey Fitzpiers, earl of Eſſex, who held large poſſeſſions of the honour of Clare, gave, on his foundation of Shouldham priory, all his lands here, with a moiety of the advowſon of this church, which was appropriated to it, and William de Wygenhale, who held conſiderable lands of the ſaid honour, aliened to the aforeſaid priory ſix acres in Wiggenhall, and many acres in ſeveral other towns.

Sir Robert Brown, bart. late lord, his manor of St. Mary's Wiggenhall extended here, and now is in his lady.

The church of St. Peter's has a nave, or body, covered with tiles, a ſouth iſle covered with lead, a chancel with reed, and a ſquare tower with one bell.

It conſiſted anciently of two rectories, or medieties; one in the earl of Clare's fee was very early appropriated to Shouldham priory, and a vicarage endowed, of which the prior was patron; but the biſhop of Norwich for the moſt part preſented. This on the diſſolution came to the crown, and the vicar is preſented by the lord chancellor, valued in the king's books at 9l. and is diſcharged from the payment of firſt fruits, &c.

The

The other mediety in Montford's fee was appropriated to Crabhouſe priory, and no vicarage was ſettled, and called the mediety of Robert the rector, in the 2d year of Richard II.) but the patronage appears to be in that houſe in 1310.

The preſent impropriator is Mr. Edwards.

The Rev. Thorogood Upwood was preſented to the vicarage of Wiggenhall St. Peter by the crown, in 1771.

The towns of WIGGENHALL in MARSHLAND. Sir W. Dugdale, in his Hiſtory of Imbanking, is of opinion that the Romans were the perſons who originally gained from the ſea this part of Norfolk, called Marſhland, where the Saxons were alſo invited to ſettle, from the extraordinary fertility of the ſoil; and that they did ſo is evident, ſays he, from the authentic ſurvey taken by the Norman Conqueror, which ſheweth that the towns now in being there, were alſo extant in the days of king Edward the Confeſſor.

That this is a juſt obſervation is not to be denied, to which we may add, that thoſe towns have alſo Saxon names, and the lords of many of thoſe towns are accounted for with their fees and tenures, in the ſaid ſurvey, as they were held both in the reign of king Edward the Confeſſor, and in that of the Conqueror; but the account of the Wiggenhalls, which make four diſtinct townſhips and pariſhes, is not ſo particular as ſeveral of the other townſhips.

Wigrehale is undoubtedly a Saxon name, and ſeems to ſet forth and ſignify that at this place was a great

a great force or preſs of water, both from the ſea and river Ouſe, expreſſed by the word Wigre, Hygre or Eager, (as it is generally called at this day) which denotes a raging ſwell or roll of water, encreaſed by the oppoſition of any bank or fence againſt it, and Hale, which does not ſignify a hall, or manſion-houſe, (as many antiquaries interpret it) Hale is the ſame as Ale, that is, All-water: thus, Aleſham, Alesford, Haleſworth,* &c. or it may be derived from Wick or Wicken, and Halewick, &c. being a turn of water or a river.

And it appears from an ancient pleading, that before the year 1181, (27th of Henry II.) that there was neither any habitation, or ground that yielded profit within that part of Wiggenhall, (St. Mary Magdalen) from a place called Buſtard's Dole, to the ſouth ſide of the ſaid town, except the monaſtery of Crabhouſe, all being then waſte, and in the nature of a deſolate fen.

But afterwards divers inhabitants in the neighbourhood came, and by draining and banking, gained as much by their induſtry as they could, and that they might the more ſecurely enjoy the ſame, were content to be tenants for it under ſuch great men (or lords) of whom they held their other lands; and upon this agreement and occaſion, by a common conſent was made the old Podike, firſt raiſed about 1222.

In the 2d of Henry III. 1217, it appears that this good work of draining had been ſucceſsful; for Hugh de Burgo, earl of Kent, and lord chief juſtice of England, and Euſtachius, biſhop of Ely, had then

* All theſe towns lie near ſome river, &c.—Parkin.

a grant, or writ of ſeiſen, of all the marſh between Wiggenhall and Well, Hackbeach, Tilney, and Terrington; no doubt on ſome aſſurances of their better imbanking and ſecuring it, and that what they had performed, might very probably induce the neighbouring lords, tenants, and others, to proceed further.

THE HISTORY OF NORFOLK.

HUNDRED of GALLOW.

HENRY I. gave this hundred with Brothercroſs to earl Warren and Surrey, holding of the caſtle of Norwich on payment of two marks per ann. In the general ſurvey made by William I. ſeveral lordſhips now in Brothercroſs were comprehended in Gallow, and, *viſe verſa*, others were ſtated in Brothercroſs which are now in the hundred of Gallow.

They were afterwards, by Edward II. conveyed to Henry duke of Lancaſter, whoſe daughter Blanch, married John of Gaunt, and ſo became a part of the dutchy of Lancaſter, now belonging to the crown.

The

The hundred court, it is ſuppoſed, was antiently held in ſome fields near Dunton, then known by the name the hundred now bears, Galehow or Galeſtow, ſignifying a hill near water. In the 3d and 10th of Elizabeth, the hundred court was held at a place called Longfield-ſtone.

This hundred comprehends a tract of rich country, extending fifteen miles in length from eaſt to weſt, and about eight from north to ſouth: In it there are twenty-nine pariſhes, eighteen of which belong to the deanry of Burnham and eleven to Toftrees; the former in the archdeaconry of Norfolk, and the latter in that of Norwich.

There are ſeveral fine ſeats, particularly Houghton and Rainham, which will be fully deſcribed in this hundred, and the whole of the lands have undergone a ſyſtem of improvement equal to any other part in the county.——The features of the country are bold and ſtriking, and afford many proſpects not leſs extenſive than pictureſque. The only market town in this hundred is Fakenham.

The number of votes in the hundred of Gallow, that were polled at the great conteſted election for the county of Norfolk, at Norwich, May 23, 1768, between ſir Armine Wodehouſe, bart. of Kimberley, Thomas de Grey, eſq. of Merton, ſir Edward Aſtley, bart. of Melton-Conſtable, and Wenman Coke, eſq. of Holkham, were as follows:

	W.	G.	A.	C.
Bagthorpe - -	1	1	0	0
Barmer, - -	0	1	1	0
Baſham, N. and W. -	3	4	5	4
Dunton with Doughton	0	0	2	2
Fakenham - -	7	8	10	9

	W.	G.	A.	C.
Fulmondeſton with Croxton	1	1	2	2
Helhoughton -	0	1	1	0
Hempton - -	1	1	2	2
Houghton - -	2	2	0	0
Kettleſtone - -	1	5	5	1
Norton Pudding -	0	0	1	1
Penſthorpe - -	1	1	0	0
Rainham, E. S. and W.	12	12	1	1
Rudham, E. and W.	10	10	0	0
Ryburgh, Great and Little	8	8	0	0
Sculthorpe - -	0	0	3	3
Sherford - -	1	1	0	0
Snoring, Little -	1	2	6	5
Stibbard - -	2	4	5	3
Tatterford - -	1	1	0	0
Tatterſet *alias* Gateſend	2	2	1	0
Toftrees - -	3	3	0	0
	57	68	45	33

Seats, and principal houſes in GALLOW hundred.

Bagthorpe, hon. Charles Vane.
Baſham Weſt, John Balders, eſq.
Fulmondeſton, John Brown, eſq.
Houghton hall, Earl of ORFORD, lord lieutenant of the county of Norfolk.
Raynham hall, lord viſcount TOWNSHEND, maſter general of the ordnance.
Sculthorpe, Cranmore, Daniel Jones, eſq.

BAGTHORPE, placed under Brothercroſs hundred, a lordſhip of the earl Warren in Doomſday-book.

CASTLEACRE PRIORY MANOR. The family of de Frevil was very early enfeoffed of this manor, by the earl Warren. It was afterwards in the family of de Bagthorpe.

Mr. Stringer was lord and patron in 1740.

Mr. Robert Barber is the preſent lord of this manor, and patron; who preſented the Rev. Mr. Edward Waller to this rectory in 1771.

In this town the honorable Charles Vane, uncle to the preſent earl of Darlington, has built an handſome ſeat, called MOUNT IDA. The gardens, hot walls and pineries here are much admired.

The church is a rectory, dedicated to St. Mary, and is a very little, mean edifice, without any monument, &c.

BARMER, called Benemare in Doomſday-book, when it was the lordſhip of William earl Warren.

COXFORD PRIORY MANOR. The temporalities of the priory, in 1428, were valued at 41. 13s. 4d. at the diſſolution, king Henry VIII. on May 9, in his 29th year, granted it to Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk, with the advowſon, all its liberties, courts lete, and view of frank pledge, foldcourſe, &c. for one thouſand years; and the duke of Norfolk granted it to Robert Bozoun, eſq. of Stody *Ao.* 9, Elizabeth, a pepper corn per ann. if demanded: Bozoun conveyed it to Roger Townſhend, eſq. Jan. 8, in the 12th of Elizabeth, with lands in Berwick, in exchange for lands in Whiſſonſet, in which family it remains, the right honorable George lord viſcount Townſhend being lord.

CASTLEACRE-

CASTLEACRE PRIORY MANOR. At the diſſolution it was granted, May 9, in the 29th of Henry VIII. to Thomas, duke of Norfolk, and Thomas duke of Norfolk granted it in the 9th of Elizabeth to Robert Bozoun, eſq. who conveyed it to Roger Townſhend, eſq. From the family of Townſhend it came to ſir John Chaplin, bart. and from him to Mr. Edward Glover, 1757, and his widow, ſiſter of Charles Turner, eſq. late collector of Lynn, is now in poſſeſſion: Mr. Glover left an only daughter, the preſent Miſs Glover, who is heireſs to the eſtate.

The church of Barmer is a little pile, ſtands on a hill, and is covered with tiles; the chancel and the north iſle are in ruins; it is dedicated to All Saints, and has a round tower or ſteeple.

There have been no inſtitutions to this church ſince the year 1404, according to Parkin, and it is at preſent held as a curacy in the patronage of the earl of Orford. In the dioceſe regiſter, the Rev. Dr. Charles Bagge is inſerted as incumbent, 1760.

BASHAM, EAST. There are three towns of the name of Baſham, or Barſham, that is, a ham by a bar, that is on, or by the hills: In Doomſday-book they are not diſtinguiſhed by the appellation of Eaſt, North, and Weſt, but included under the general name of Barſham.

In the ſame village, (Baſham) as we are informed from Doomſday-book, Reiner held of the earl Warren, a lordſhip which belonged to Toke, in king Edward's reign.

WOOLTERTON'S MANOR. Reiner, who held this lordſhip under the earl Warren at the ſurvey, was probably,

probably, Reiner de Grancourt, who gave to the priory of Caſtleacre, the patronage of this church, when Herbert was biſhop of Norwich; his deſcendants either took the name of De Barſham, or a family of that name held it ſoon after.

Maurice de Barſham, in the 31ſt of Henry II. was fined 40l. becauſe he gave his daughter in marriage to William de Bellemonte, and William was alſo fined 23l. 6s. 2d. becauſe he married againſt the agreement that he had made to marry the daughter of Ralph de Gedding. This Maurice began his journey or pilgrimage to St. James of Compoſtella in Spain, on the feaſt of St. Dunſtan, and gave to the priory of Caſtleacre for the proſperity of his journey, all his corn in his granges of Eaſt Baſham, and Weſt Baſham, ſixty-four ſheep in his foldcourſe of Eaſt, and ſixteen in that of Weſt Baſham, with all his tenements which he held of them, if he ſhould not return again.

After this it was poſſeſſed by Roger de Woolterton, who, with Alice his wife, conveyed by fine, in the 4th of Edward I. to John de Albiniaco, and Joan his wife, a meſſuage, mill, and lands here. Roger ſealed with, quarterly, or and azure, a bend, gules.

Thomas Gournay, eſq. and John Hunt, ſon of William Hunt, of Eaſt Baſham, confirmed to John Wode, of Briſton, eſq. and his heirs, &c. the manor of Eaſt Baſham, formerly Roger de Woolterton's, and John de Bryſton, of Bryſton, eſq. releaſed to John Wode aforeſaid, all his right in this manor, April 2, in the 18th of Henry VI. and Catherine, widow of William Hunt, releaſed to him all her right.

This

This John Wode farmed the hundred of Gallow and Brotherton, of Elizabeth, queen conſort of king Edward IV. in the 7th of that king.

After many poſſeſſors this eſtate came to the family of the Fermors, September 14, in the 11th of Henry VIII.

In the 24th of the ſaid king, Sir Henry Fermor, knt. was high ſheriff of Norfolk.

Thomas Fermor, Eſq. was killed in Riſing chace, by the Norfolk rebels, in the 2d of Edw. VI.—and Nicholas Fermor, eſq. brother of this Thomas, was attainted for treaſonable practices in coining, in the 19th of Elizabeth.

Thomas Fermor, eſq. waſted in a great degree his eſtate, and ſold many lordſhips.

William Fermor, eſq. ſon and heir of Thomas, held his firſt court in the 17th of James I. on March 25, and married Anne, daughter of Robert Brooke, alderman of London, and ſiſter of Sir Robert Brooke, of Blythborough, in Suffolk, by whom he had a daughter and heireſs, Mary, who by marriage, brought the manors above-mentioned to James Calthorpe, eſq. about the 3d of king Charles I. by the marriage articles dated then, January 17, it was entailed on the ſaid James and Mary, and their heirs, and for default, on the heirs of James Calthorpe.

By the ſaid Mary, he had iſſue, who died before her; his ſecond wife was Catherine, daughter of Sir Edward Lewkner, of Denham, in Suffolk, by whom he had ſir Chriſtopher Calthorpe, knt. of the Bath, lord of this town, who by Dorothy his wife,

daughter of ſir William Spring, of Pakenham in Suffolk, knt. father of Chriſtopher Calthorpe, eſq, who died in 1713, (before his father, who died in 1718, Feb. 7) leaving by Ann-Maria, daughter of William de Grey, eſq. of Merton, Chriſtopher Calthorpe, who died in November 1720, aged 13 years.

On the death of this youth, his two aunts, Elizabeth and Ann, daughters of ſir Chriſtopher Calthorpe, inherited the eſtate; Ann, being the wife of ſir Thomas Le Strange, had a moiety of it in her right, and Elizabeth, who was ſingle, at her death gave her part to the ſaid ſir Thomas, on whoſe death it came to ſir Henry Le Strange, bart. of Hunſtanton.

The Calthorpes of this town are deſcended from ſir William Calthorpe, of Burnham-Thorpe, &c. by Elizabeth his ſecond wife, daughter and coheir of ſir Miles Stapleton, of Ingham in Norfolk.

Sir William Fermor built on this manor of Woolterton a very large and ſtately manor-houſe, or hall, of brick, in the reign of king Henry VIII. now very much decayed and ruinous. Some years paſt were found theſe remains of antiquity: over the great gate-houſe, leading into the court-yard, on the outſide, are the kings arms of France and England, quarterly, ſupported by a lion and a griffin; * on the right ſide of it the arms of Fermor; argent, on a ſaltire ſable, between 4 lions heads eraſed, gules, a martlet of the firſt between four bezants, on a chief azure, an anchor between two pallets, or, impaling argent, three pallets, gules, —— and on the left, Fermor impaling, argent, a lion rampant, ſable, Stapleton.

Below

* The arms of king Henry VIII.

Below theſe are two wild men, or giants, in two nitches, one on each ſide of the gate, as janitors, armed with clubs. Over the door of the porch, leading into the hall, are the arms of France and England, with a griffin and a greyhound ſupporters, king Henry VII.'s arms, and Fermor, impaling.

In the bow window of the hall, this motto on ſeveral ſcrolls, *Audaces Fortuna Juvat.*—Howard, duke of Norfolk, quartering Brotherton, earl Warren, and Mowbray, in a garter.—Percy, earl of Northumberland, with his quarterings.—Lucy Poynings, Fitzpayne, Bryan, &c. in a garter.—Knevet quartering Cromwell, Tatteſhale, Cliſton, Baſſet, &c. Alſo, argent, on a pale, ſable, a conger's head, or Lucies, or Gaſcoine; and here is this date in the window, 1538, in which year it is probable the houſe was built. Alſo barry of ſix, argent and gules.

In the great parlour window: Fermor impaling, argent, a ſaltire between four ſtaples, ſable, Wood.—The arms of the old lords of this manor; Fermor impaling Stapleton, Berney impaling Fermor.—Yelverton.—Fermor impaling Knevet (alſo Fermor impaling Fromond, p. chevr. 3 de lys counterchanged) with his quarterings on the chimney-piece; alſo impaling Coote, &c. and this motto, *Fortior eſt qui ſe, quam qui fortiſſima vincit.* On a piece of oak, in the center of the cieling, are the *Quinque vulnera* carved, and round it, *The paſſion of God help me.*

In a room called the nurſery, and above ſtairs, are ſeveral antique heads of men and women, in antique dreſſes, on the wainſcot; under the heads of one man and woman, the arms of Fermor and Wood; under others, Fermor and Knevet, Yelverton and Fermor, and Berney and Fermor.

Lady Le Strange, of Greſſenhall near Eaſt-Dereham, relict of ſir Henry Le Strange, of Hunſtanton, now poſſeſſes this eſtate.

ROCHFORD'S MANOR. Sir Jaer de Rochford, of Stifkey, conveyed, by fine, to Ralph de Rochford his ſon, and Maud his wife, this lordſhip, in the 28th of Edw. III.

In the 22d of Henry VII. George Kirkham held a court here on Friday after the feaſt of St. George, who had the cuſtody of the lands, &c. of Thomas Welby, lord, and under age.

Nicholas Mynne, eſq. and Catherine his wife, granted this manor by fine, in the 4th of Elizabeth, to William Mynne, gent. quit of the heirs of Catherine; and on May 26, in the 13th of Elizabeth, Nicholas Mynne, of Walſingham Parva, releaſed it to Thomas Fermor, eſq. of Eaſt-Baſham; ſo it was joined to Woolterton's manor.

ST. MARTIN'S, or EAST-HALL MANOR. In the 14th of Edward III. it was poſſeſſed by ſir John de Bardolf, of Maple-Durham, held by him of the lord Bardolf, and he of the honor of Caſtleacre.

This manor became united with Woolterton's in the 25th of Edw. III.

Beſides the lordſhips above-mentioned, part of this town of Eaſt-Baſham was a beruite, at the ſurvey, to the Conqueror's manor of Fakenham, which was held by Harold, king of England, who was ſlain in battle.

BERNIGNHAM'S

BERNINGHAM'S MANOR, or KNOLLE'S and WALDGRAVE'S. John de Berningham, in the 31ſt of Edward I. was lord of this fee.

Sir Richard Waldgrave, by deed, dated at Bures in Suffolk, on January 1ſt, in the 11th of Rich. II. ſold and confirmed it to Auguſtine Keeling, &c.

In the 25th of Henry VI. March 3, John Hunt, of Swaffham in Norfolk, ſells to John Wode the manor of Berningham for fifty marks; and on the 10th of the ſaid month, Robert Mompynſon, of Wiſbich, and Catherine his wife, late wife of William Hunt, of Eaſt-Baſham, enfeoffed John Wode, of Honingham, and Margery his wife, &c. in four meſſuages, four toſts, &c. called Berningham's, in this town, and Snoring, with the reverſion of other meſſuages, held by John Lynge for life; and, at the ſaid time, appointed Thomas Gurney, eſq. their attorney, to deliver ſeiſin to John Wode and Margery, and to Robert, ſon of the ſaid John and Margery; and on the 10th of May, in the ſame year, John Hunt, of Swaffham-Market, ſon and heir of William Hunt, releaſed to John Wode the ſaid premiſſes.

On the 28th of June, in the 30th of the ſaid king, ſir Thomas Kerdeſton, &c. enfeoffed John Wode, &c. of the manor of Waldgrave; and on the 6th of March, in the 33d of that king, John Lathum, maſter or cuſtos of the hoſpital of the Holy Trinity of Pontefract, called Knolle's Alms-houſe, in Yorkſhire, releaſed to John Wode all his right in the manor of Berningham's; and thus Berningham's and Waldgrave's manor were united to that of Woolterton.

CHILD'S MANOR. This ſeems to have been a part of Waldgrave's manor, and was confirmed to Thomas Child in the 14th of Richard II.

William Leyre confirmed to Humfrey, duke of Glouceſter, and Alianora his wife, and William Perkins, eſq. this lordſhip, October 6, in the 11th of Henry VI. and the ſaid William by his deed, dated October 20, in the ſaid year, releaſed all his right herein to the ſaid duke; and ſealed with, or, a feſs dauncette, between eight billets ermin.

William Wake, of Holkham, confirmed to Richard Wake his brother, and Catherine his wife, all his tenement which he had of the gift of ſir John Daubenys, with the lands, &c. in the 13th of Edward II.

The church is dedicated to All Saints, and the Rev. Mr. William Pretheroe was preſented to this vicarage in 1742, by ſir Thomas Le Strange of Hunſtanton, and Mrs. Elizabeth Calthorpe.

On the north ſide of the church, at the weſt end, is the ſteeple, with one bell, dedicated to St. Thomas; the church is covered with lead. Here were formerly ſeveral bells, which being taken out of the church, and put on ſhip board, were loſt (as is ſaid) on Hunſtanton ſands.

Againſt the north wall is a ſmall mural monument, *In memory of Simon Lombe, A. M. for 43 years God's faithful miniſter of this pariſh, who died May 4th, 1689; and of Margaret his wife, daughter of Mr. Thomas Seggeſwick, merchant of Norwich, both interred in the middle alley of this church. Erected by C. C. M. B.*

On

On the pavement of the chancel are ſeveral black marble grave-ſtones.—*Barbara Strut, ſecond daughter of Robert Strut, of Hadley in Suffolk, and Grace his wife, daughter of Chriſtopher Calthorpe, of Cockthorpe, eſq. died May 14th*, 1714, *Ao, Ætat.* 81. with the arms of Strut, ſable, a chevron between three croſs croſslets, fitchee, or.—*James Calthorpe, eſq. third ſon of James Calthorpe, eſq. and Catherine his wife, died January* 19, *aged* 73, *Ao, Dni.* 1717, with the arms of Calthorpe.—*Charles Calthorpe, Gent. youngeſt ſon of James Calthorpe, eſq. and Catherine his wife, died November* 8, 1677, *aged* 27, with Calthorpe's arms. *Catherine, ſecond daughter of Sir Edward Lewkner, of Denham in Suffolk, Knt. ſecond wife, and relict of James Calthorpe, of Eaſt-Barſham, Eſq; who remained a widow* 25 *years, and died November* 17, 1677, *aged* 61, with the arms of Calthorpe, impaling Lewkner, azure, three chevronells, argent.—Alſo one, *In memory of James Calthorpe, Eſq; late of Eaſt-Barſham, here interred, who died April* 19, 1652, *aged* 48, with the arms of Calthorpe impaling Fermor, and Calthorpe impaling Lewkner.

Againſt the ſouth wall of the preſent chancel, which is taken out of the nave of the church, is a very ſumptuous monument of alabaſter, black marble, &c. with the effigies of a woman in her winding ſheet, as raiſing herſelf with her left hand out of her coffin, her right hand and eyes elevated in a poſture of adoration, and on the coffin, *Come Lord Jeſu quickly.* Over her are two arches, ſupported by pillars of the Dorick order; in one of them is an angel offering her a crown of glory, and in the other an angel offering her a crown of laurel; and, above theſe, an angel as ſounding the laſt trumpet. On the corniſh of the monument are two effigies, one repreſenting Wiſdom or Knowledge, with the ſun, the other with a Dove, repreſenting Innocency. On the baſis of the monu-

ment, the arms of Calthorpe, and, *James Calthorpe, Eſq; dedicates this monument to the pious memory of Mary his wife, &c. daughter and ſole heir of William Fermour, Eſq; and of Ann his wife, daughter of Robert Brook, late alderman of London, by whom he had iſſue two ſons, who died* ——, 1640.

	Died.	*Aged.*
Andrew Fermour - -	*February* 1, 1627	
William Fermour - -	*Novem.* 24, 1635	
Fermour Calthorpe, ſenior	*March* 2, 1635	5 *years.*
Fermour Calthorpe, junior	*December* 1, 1637	18 *days.*

This church in ſome writings is called the Holy Trinity of Eaſt-Baſham.

Thomas Wright, vicar, S. T. B. Sir Chriſtopher Calthorpe, lord and patron, by his will in 1718 gives to him during his life and continuance to perform divine ſervice here, and after his death, or remove, to the vicar of Eaſt-Baſham, and his ſucceſſors for ever, that houſe, outhouſes, yards, and orchards, in Eaſt-Baſham, in which the ſaid Mr. Wright now lives, together with the feed of the church-yard, and vicarage tithes of all my lands in Weſt-Baſham, he and they anſwering to the vicar of Weſt-Baſham 5s. per ann. being, by ancient determination in chancery, deſired to be by cuſtom the dues to him only for the ſame.

BASHAM, NORTH. Hugo had of the Earl Warren a caracute of land, held by a freeman in king Edward's reign, for a manor in this village.

Wauncy's Manor, or Southall. Hugh, who was lord of Weſt-Baſham, was anceſtor of the family of de Wauci, and held this lordſhip at the ſurvey under the Earl Warren.

The family of Suthale, or Southwell, had ſome intereſt herein under the Wauci. In the reign of Edw. III. it came to Edmund Gurney, by the marriage of Catherine, daughter of ſir William Wauci, and remained in that family.

BRANCH'S MANOR. This was the principal manor, and held by a family that gave name to it, under the Wauci's; Ralph Branch was lord, as appears from the regiſter of Walſingham, and Richard was his ſon, but *ſans date.*

In the 26th of Henry III. a fine was levied between William Braunche and Joan his wife, impedients, Thomas Trivet and Alianore his wife, querents.

This Thomas is ſaid to have been a knight, one of the king's juſtices, and father of Nicholas Trivet, the hiſtorian, who wrote the reigns of ſeveral kings of England. In the 57th of Henry III. he was a judge of Norwich, and in the 7th of Edw. I. a commiſſioner to enquire after the authors of the quarrel between the monks and citizens of Norwich, which begun in king Henry's time; but ſtill it appears that the family of Branch had an intereſt in this manor.

By an inquiſition taken at Norwich, April 1, in the 16th of James I. Philip Ruſſell, eſq. was found to die poſſeſſed of this manor.

This family is derived from Thomas Ruſſell, of Littleport in the Iſle of Ely, whoſe ſon William had Henry Ruſſell, of Weſt Rudham in Norfolk, Gent. who by Margaret his wife, daughter and heir of John Bachelor, of Weſt Rudham, and Iſabel his wife,

wife, daughter and heir of Thomas Ferrers, of the ſaid town, left Henry, his ſon and heir, who by Elizabeth, daughter of —— Wallis, had William Ruſſell, of Weſt Rudham, Gent. and by Agnes his wife, daughter of Thomas Walpole, of Houghton, eſq. he had Thomas Ruſſell, his ſon and heir, William and Edmund, which Edmund died September 13, 1589, and by Catherine his wife, daughter of Nicholas Bowry, of Stone in Hertfordſhire, was father of Thomas, his ſon and heir, who died without iſſue, and of Philip Ruſſel, eſq; abovementioned, who died in 1617, and was buried (as his elder brother Thomas was) in the church of North Baſham, leaving by Catherine his wife, daughter of John Walpole, of Houghton, eſq. Thomas aforeſaid, who died without iſſue.

William Rootley, eſq. who was high ſheriff of Norfolk in 1722, and his ſon, ſold it to the honorable Horace Walpole, eſq. and his ſon, the preſent lord Walpole of Woolterton, now poſſeſſes it.

Churche's Manor. Godfrey de Levingdale, of Eaſt-Baſham, by deed *ſans date*, gave theſe lands to Maud Atte Church.

Caley's Manor. William Caley had this manor in Edward IV's time. Thomas Seſoule, by his will in the 4th of Elizabeth, appears to be poſſeſſed of it. Richard Percy ſoon after held it, and ſo was united to Branch's manor.

Mr. John Borage, of North-Baſham, gave by will, dated October 27, 1636, to the maſter, fellows, and ſcholars of Clare-Hall in Cambridge, where he was ſome time a ſcholar, a rent charge of 35l. per ann. out of his meſſuages, lands and tenements, in North and

and Weſt-Baſham, towards the maintenance of a fellow, to be held only until the non-regency, or five years after the ſaid fellow's commencing maſter of arts; capable of being elected when he ſhall be ſophiſter of two years ſtanding in the ſaid hall; to be choſe out of the founder's name and kindred in that hall, or in any other college in Cambridge, as ſhall be found capable thereof, and for want thereof, any Norfolk or Norwich man may be elected.

The church is a rectory, dedicated to All Saints, and was in the patronage of the Braunch's, lords in the reign of Edward I.

The preſent rector of North-Baſham is the Rev. Mr. John Dowſing, preſented in 1762 by lord Walpole of Woolterton.

Joſeph Lawſon died rector in 1643. There is a very remarkable entry in the pariſh regiſter, under Mr. Lawſon's own hand, as follows:

Deo Gratias,
Quod Nos Satias,
Bonis Ruſticorum,
Contra Voluntatem Eorum.

Againſt the north wall of this church is a mural monument, with a ſhield—Quarterly, argent, a lion rampant, in a bordure, gules, in the 1ſt and 4th Ruſſell, in the 2d and 3d or, a chevron, gules, and a chief vairy, or, and azure, and impaling Walpole. *In memory of Phil. Ruſſell, Eſq; who married Catherine, daughter of John Walpole, of Houghton, Eſq; and dyed December* 26, 1617, *aged* 66.—The ſaid arms are carved on the wainſcot in the manor-houſe.

On

On the pavement of the chancel, a grave-ſtone in memory of *Joſeph Thomſon, rector, who died in* 1723.

BASHAM, WEST. Hugo de Wauci held this manor of the Earl Warren, and it remained with his deſcendents till the 47th of Edw. III, when it came to Edmund Gurney by marriage.

This eſtate was long in the family of the Gurneys. Edmund died ſeiſed of it in the year 1641, and his ſon Henry ſold it to the family of Calthorpe, From the Calthorpes it came to Dr. Charles Morley, M. D. who was lord in 1720, and his ſon, the late Charles Morley, eſq. of Baſham, left it to his nephew, John Balders, eſq. the preſent lord.

This family of de Gourney was of great antiquity, and lords of Harpley. Matthew de Gourney lived in the reign of Henry II. and married Roſe, daughter and heir of Reginald de Burnham, William de Gourney was his ſon and heir, and had ſir John de Gourney, who was in arms againſt king Henry III. and one of the ſame name was lord in the beginning, and 27th of Edw. I. and John de Gourney was rector, patron, and lord alſo, of Harpley, in the 31ſt of the ſaid king; and in the 9th of Edw. II. ſettled on John de Gourney, his nephew, (ſon of Catherine) and Jane his wife, the manor of Harpley, remainder to William and Edmund, brothers of John. This Edmund was he, who by the marriage of Catherine, daughter of ſir William, and ſiſter and heir of ſir Edmund de Wauci, brought this lordſhip of Weſt-Baſham into the Gurney family.

The arms of Gurney were argent, a croſs ingrailed, gules, and impaled the arms of Wauci, gules, three

three dexter hands erect, argent; alſo Calthorpe, Heydon, Lovell, Holdick, Blennerhaſſet and Lewknor; alſo they impaled Jernegan, and ſable, a chevron between three leopards heads, &c. —— probably Wentworth.

WILKIN'S MANOR. Ralph, or Robert, ſon of Robert Wilkin, and his tenants, held in the reign of Henry III. one knight's fee of the earl Warren, in this town.

Thomas Fermor poſſeſſed it, with meſſuages and lands in Weſt and Eaſt Baſham, with the advowſon of the church of this town, in the 12th of Elizabeth; and on the 16th of April, 1603, John Kemp, of Antingham St. Mary in Norfolk, eſq. releaſed to Thomas Fermor, eſq. and William Fermor, eſq. all his right in it. William Fermor, eſq. ſon of Thomas, was lord of it in 1627; and a pardon of alienation of it was granted, 17th of November, 8th of king Charles I. to Henry Calthorpe, eſq. and Valentine Pell, eſq. for taking it from William Fermor, by fine, levied in Hillary term, in the 3d of Charles I.

Sir L'Eſtrange Calthorpe, knt. and ſerjeant at law, was lord in 1675, ſon of Philip Calthorpe, of Greſſenhall, eſq. and Elizabeth his wife, who by Ann his wife, daughter of Arthur Turner, of Parndon-Magna in Eſſex, ſerjeant at law, had James Calthorpe, eſq. drowned at ſea in 1691, and left by Elizabeth his wife, daughter of James Cooper, and ſiſter of ſir William Cooper of London, Elizabeth, daughter and heir, married to Charles Morley, M. D. whoſe ſon Cha. Morley, eſq. married the daughter of Richard Daſhwood, eſq. of Cockley-Cley near Swaffham, and dying without iſſue, left it to his nephew, John Balders, eſq. the preſent lord.

CASTLEACRE PRIORY MANOR. The patronage of this church is in John Balders, eſq. who on the deceaſe of the Rev. Morgan Powell, formerly of Catherine-Hall, Cambridge, an ingenious and deſerving man, preſented the Rev. Mr. Wm. Fiſher, vicar of South Creak, to this vicarage in 1774.

In the chancel, a grave-ſtone with a braſs plate: *Caducum hoc æternat Marmor Edwardus Gourney, filius et heres Tho. Gourney Armig. et Marthæ filiæ Edvi. Lewkenor de Denham, in Com. Suff. Militis, obiit Aug.* 1641.

On a black marble ſtone: *Here lyeth the body of Sr. L'Eſtrange Calthorp, Kt. ſerjeant at law to king Charles II. Departed this life April* 5, 1678.

BROOMSTHORPE, or Brunſthorpe, ſo called as ſeated by a burn, or bourn. This viliage was given (as we take it) to the abbey of Ely, by Ethelwold, biſhop of Wincheſter, in the reign of the Saxon king Edgar. At the ſurvey it was in the tenure, and accounted for as the lands of St. Audrey, or Adeldrede, the foundreſs of that monaſtery.

This eſtate was long in the family of the Cockets. In the year 1570, Thomas Cocket, eſq. bought it of Thomas, nephew to ſir William Fermor.

Abigail, daughter and heir of Froximere Cocket, eſq. brought this lordſhip by marriage to John Walpole, eſq. ſecond ſon of Calybut Walpole, eſq. of Houghton, who dying December 8, 1654, was buried at Tatterſet, and left three daughters and coheirs; Elizabeth, who married to Edward Pepys, eſq. had one daughter, who died in 1665, and her huſband in 1663; and the ſaid Elizabeth dying September

tember 10, 1668, was buried by her huſband and daughter in the church of Tatterſet. By her will, ſhe gave her right in this lordſhip to her two ſiſters, Bridget and Suſan. John Hare, eſq. purchaſing Bridget's right in 1669, became ſole lord, and left it to his ſon, John Hare, eſq. Richmond herald, who, in 1698, ſold it to Philip Bedingfield, eſq. who married his ſiſter Elizabeth. Philip was ſon of Edmund Bedingfield, rector of Biſhops-Cleeve in Glouceſterſhire, ſon of Robert, and brother to ſir Thomas Bedingfield, of Darſham in Suffolk; and on December 24, 1615, it was ſold by the aforeſaid Philip to colonel Horace Walpole, a younger ſon of ſir Edward Walpole, knight of the Bath, for 2200l. and an annuity of 60l. clear, for life.

Here is only the manor-houſe remaining, which the colonel died ſeized of, October 17, 1717, and the earl of Orford is now lord. Colonel Horace Walpole built ſome additional rooms in front, but they have been pulled down lately, having been long out of uſe, and it is now a farm-houſe.

Here is no church, and it appears to have been deſtroyed before the reign of queen Elizabeth.

DUNTON with DOUGHTON, or Doketon.—Dunton, ſo called as ſeated on a hill, was a beruite to the king's manor of Fakenham at the ſurvey, belonging to Harold in the Confeſſor's time, and when he was king of England. In this account Doketon, or Docton, is included as an hamlet, or part of the manor of Dunton, and ſo not mentioned in the ſurvey, or Doomſday-book.

King Henry II. is ſaid to have given this town, with Doughton and Kettleſton, to Ralph de Hauvile,

to

to be held by *petit ſerjeanty*, the keeping of the king's hawks or falcons; and in another record it is ſaid, by keeping of two ger-falcons for the king. This Ralph was a knight, and had a ſon ſir Ralph, who wrote himſelf ſometimes De Hauvile, and ſometimes De Dunton, according to the practice and cuſtom of that age.

In the 3d of king John, ſir Ralph had 10l. per ann. towards keeping the king's hawks; and in the 2d of Henry III. Henry de Hauvile was lord, ſon of ſir Ralph; in which year Ralph de Jernemue (Yarmouth) conveyed to him by fine all his right in the laſtage of Norfolk, Suffolk, and Lincoln; and in the following year, Gilbert and Ralph de Hauvile had a mandate to bring the king's ger-falcons in their cuſtody ſafe to court, ſigned by Hubert de Burgo the chief juſtice.

Hugh de Dunton impleaded, in the 34th of that king, Henry de Hauvile for taking his ſwans from his pool in Doughton, and carrying them to Dunton; and it was adjudged that he ſhould make ſatisfaction, and permit Hugh to have the fiſhery in the water of Doughton, from Hugo's mill to the mill of Henry.

In the 30th of Edward III. ſir James Hauvile was with the king in Gaſcoine, and had letters of protection, and about this time is ſaid to have ſold this lordſhip to ſir Robert Tyffour.

Thomas Fermor, of Eaſt-Baſham, eſq. was in poſſeſſion of this manor in the time of queen Elizabeth, and on September 8, 1558, ſold it to Edward Coke, attorney-general to the queen, afterwards lord chief juſtice, from whom it deſcended to the late lord

lord Leiceſter; ſince whoſe deceaſe the whole eſtate, containing upwards of ſeventeen hundred acres, moſt of it rich and fertile land, has been lett upon an article for twenty-one years, at the rent of 680l, 12s. 8d. per ann. It is ſuppoſed to be worth a rent of 1200l. or thereabouts. The article is at preſent conteſted, and the validity of it doubtful.

In the chancel a marble grave-ſtone, *In memory of Matthew Lancaſter, of Dunton, Gent. eldeſt ſon and heir of Matthew Lancaſter, deſcended from John Lancaſter, the firſt of that race in England, and firſt founder of Lancaſter, from whom iſſued fifty, or more, Knights, Eſqrs. and Gentlemen of Quality, ſome dignified by their honorable marriages into noble families. the reſt, or moſt of them, in their ſeveral marriages, equallizing, if not exceeding their own rank and pedigree, died* ———, 1658.

It is a little extraordinary we ſhould know no more of this illuſtrious Lancaſter than what is recited in the above pompous inſcription; eſpecially as he lived in times of public commotion and public danger, during the commonwealth of England, and died only two years before the reſtoration of Charles II.

The church of Dunton is a rectory, but in the nature of a donative, the preſent rector, the Rev. Chriſtopher Selby, rector of Rougham, preſented by lord Lovell (afterwards earl of Leiceſter) in 1736, receiving only a certain ſtipend, and that very ſmall. Was this *modus*, if we may call it ſo, aboliſhed, as theſe *modi* or *moduſſes* have been lately ſcouted and ſet aſide by the houſe of peers, the *law lords*, particularly lord Camden and lord Mansfield, being ſtrong againſt them and their validity, this rectory of Dunton would become one of the moſt conſider-

able and valuable livings in the county of Norfolk. 'Tis wonderful, indeed, the clergy of Norfolk ſit down ſo tamely by theſe arbitrary encroachments upon the church: this is certainly the age to exert themſelves in, and to recover their long loſt rights: there is no ſenſe in the forbearance of receiving half-a-crown for what is worth five pounds, eſpecially when the laity are ſo ready to harraſs them with actions of non-reſidence, formed upon an old obſolete act of Henry VIII. which neither judge nor jury underſtand. For can any thing be more abſurd or ridiculous than to proſecute a clergyman for not reſiding on a living where he has no houſe to reſide in? or any thing more oppreſſive, tyrannical, and ſavage, than to compel a clergyman by threats of proſecution to build a houſe where one was wanting, who has always attended the duties of his pariſh, Sunday and weekly, from a diſtance of no more than four miles in the neighbourhood, and this perhaps in the decline of life? Yet we know that ſuch things have happened in the memory of us all. We have been told that a new parſonage-houſe has been lately erected at Lyng, near Lenwade bridge, by the preſent worthy and ingenious rector, the Rev. Mr. Baldwin, late of Trinity college, Cambridge, perhaps his ſole inducement might be to prevent litigious and malicious people, men of bad heads and baſe hearts, from bringing actions upon the old ſtatute of Henry VIII. againſt him: for this at preſent remains a formidable battery againſt the church, and is always ready to be opened and played upon it by the engineers of Weſtminſter-hall, when properly taken into pay.

FAKENHAM, at the compiling of Doomſday-book, was in the king's hands. Harold was lord of it in king Edward's reign, and alſo when he was king

king of England; but being ſlain in the battle of Haſtings, it came to William the Conqueror. Several beruites belonged to it, or it extended into theſe following townſhips, &c. Althorpe, Thorpland, Stanhoe, Stibbard, Creak, Baſham, Snoring, Kettleſton, and Pudding-Norton.

Probably the river on which this town ſtands, might, in the Saxon age, be called Fa; Ken always denotes a ſtream of water or river: thus, Kennet, Kenford; and frequently occurs, as Ham does for a dwelling. There are two towns in Suffolk called Fakenham, and Fakenhurſt in Kent.

Some ancient records ſay, that William II. called Rufus, gave this great lordſhip to Hugh Capel, to be held by two knights fees, and that it deſcended to his ſon Hugh, and grandſon Walter, and ſo to his daughters. Others ſay that his name was Hugh Symired, that he was enfeoffed of it by king Henry I. and that on the death of Walter Symired his ſon, it reverted or eſcheated to the crown, and king John granted it to William de Albini, earl of Arundel, who was lord about the 7th of that king.

In the 25th of Henry III. Hugh earl of Arundel was ſummoned to reſtore to the king this lordſhip, as an eſcheat belonging to the Normans.

King Edward II. on the 11th of October, in his 3d year, gave it to Gilbert earl of Clare, who dying without iſſue in the 7th of the ſaid king, it was granted in the following year to David de Strathbogie, earl of Athol, with the advowſon, till the lands of the ſaid earl in Scotland could be reſtored to him.

On the 8th of February, in the 5th of Edw. III. Robert de Ufford, earl of Suffolk, had a grant of it; but ſoon after, about the 6th of that king, Iſabel, queen dowager, who died ſeiſed of it in his 32d year.

King Edward III. in his 46th year, June 25th, gave this town to his ſon John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaſter, and on his death it came to his ſon Henry IV. king of England, and duke of Lancaſter, and continued in the crown till granted, about the reign of king Charles I. to the Fermors of Baſham-Eaſt, or the Calthorpes.

Sir Chriſtopher Calthorpe died ſeiſed of it, and by his heirs it came to the L'Eſtranges, ſir Henry L'Eſtrange, bart. being the late lord.

Sir Henry Spelman is ſurpriſed to find that a *ſalina*, or ſalt-pit, ſhould in Doomſday-book be mentioned as a part of this lordſhip, being nine miles from the ſea; but it is to be obſerved, that this *ſalina* lay in ſome place on the ſea belonging to Harold, and after to him when king: thus Necton, a town above twenty miles from the neareſt part of the ſea, had a *ſalina*, which lay at Lynn. Harold was lord of Necton.

In the 37th of Henry VIII. lands here belonging to Hempton priory were granted by the king, September 9th, to ſir William Fermor, and the lady Catherine his wife.

The church is a large regular pile, having a nave, a north and ſouth iſle covered with lead, and a chancel covered with tiles; at the weſt a tower with eight bells, and is dedicated to St. Peter.

Round

Round the cover of the font is, *Orate pro aia. Ade Powryte, et Alicie uxoris ejus, et omnium benefactor. ſuor. qui iſtud opus fieri fecerunt in honore Dei omnipotentis. Amen.* On the eight ſides of the ſtone baſon, or font, are ſeveral religious emblems, viz. of an angel, ox, lion, and eagle, to repreſent the four evangeliſts; alſo that of the Trinity, a croſs, crown of thorns, the king's arms; alſo on the pillar of it, the letter H or L, in an old character, and a crown over it, to repreſent it as being in the dutchy of Lancaſter, or built in king Henry the VIth's reign.

On a black marble grave-ſtone, with the arms of Calthorpe in a lozenge: *Catherine, 3d daughter of Sir Chriſtopher Calthorpe, of Eaſt-Barſham, Knt. of the Bath, and dame Dorothy, died 19th of September, 1717, aged 47.*——Near this a grave-ſtone, *In memory of James Calthorpe, Eſq. eldeſt ſon of Sir Chriſtopher, born June 9, 1673, died June 24, 1696.*—— Alſo on a grave-ſtone; quarterly, Calthorpe and Leukenor, argent, three chevronels, azure, impaling Spring, argent, on a chevron, ingrailed between three maſcles, gules, as many cinquefoils, or: *In memory of Sir Chriſtopher Calthorpe, Knt. of the Bath, and the laſt ſurvivor of 68 knights, companions of that honorable order, eldeſt ſon of James Calthorpe, and Katherine his wife, daughter of Sir Edward Lukenor, of Denham in Suffolk, Knt. he died Febr. 7, 1717-18, aged 75 years.*—Adjoining, one, *In memory of dame Dorothy, daughter of Sir William Spring, of Pakenham in Suffolk, Bart. wife of Sir Chriſtopher Calthorpe, from the 19th of September, 1664, to the 7th of February, 1715; mother of 14 children, of which ſix daughters, and all the ſons, deceaſed before her.*—Againſt the north wall is a mural monument, with the arms of Calthorpe. Oppoſite to this monument, on the ſouth ſide of the iſle: *Lyeth the body of Chriſtopher Calthorpe, Eſq.*

grandſon of Sir Chriſtopher Calthorpe, Knt. of the Bath. The loſs of a youth of ſuch promiſing parts and ingenuity, and the laſt heir male of this elder branch of that antient family, can never be enough lamented. He died of a violent fever at the ſchool of St. Edmund's, Bury, the 6th day of November, 1720, aged thirteen years and one day,

The following elegant Latin inſcription is on an altar tomb in the church-yard, on the ſouth ſide: *Hic jacet Johannes, quem prope dilecta ſua Catherina Wortley, quos amor et eccleſia conjunxit; ſeparavit, et rerum, et hominum edax, tempus, et tumulus rapuit. Hanc anno Domini* 1665, *ætate integram. Hunc anno Dni.* 1695, *ſenectute fractum vicit, facilis victoria. Veniet, veniet tamen dies, quæ raptam dabit, quæ victum, invictum reddet. Vis plura lector, ſcias honeſtis ortas parentibus, et quondam hujus loci, nunc beatioris incolas.*

We find the church porch to be uſed as a magazine for the hundred of Gallow in 1602; and on the 23d of June, in that year, twenty-ſeven pounds of powder, twenty-nine pounds, and twenty-four pounds to be lodged there, with quantities of matches, pick-axes, axes, &c.

Fakenham is now a large village, and a market town: the market is held on a Thurſday, and the merchants from the ſea-port town of Wells, in its neighbourhood, conſtantly attend to buy corn of the farmers for exportation. It is a neat town, and well built. There is a court-houſe, which is now uſed as a ſchool-room; and occaſionally concerts of muſic are held in it: it was intended for a ſeſſions-houſe, the quarter-ſeſſions of the peace being formerly held alternately at Fakenham and Walſingham, but of late years at Walſingham and Holt.

The

The maſter and fellows of Trinity college, Cambridge, are patrons of the living, which is a rectory of conſiderable value. The preſent rector is the Rev. Mr. Moore Meredith, fellow of Trinity, who was preſented Auguſt 30, 1770.

The river Wenſum, which flows through the meadows of this town, has been ſuppoſed to be capable of being made navigable to Norwich, and of courſe to Yarmouth, and ſome meetings have been held for that purpoſe; but whether through the contending intereſts of the proprietors of eſtates through which the river glides, or the great expence attending the work, all attempts to carry the ſcheme into execution have unfortunately been dropped; and this is the more ſurpriſing, after the ſucceſs of the great deſigns projected and finiſhed by the preſent duke of Bridgewater, to his immortal honour, near Mancheſter, and in other parts of this kingdom.

ALTHORPE, was at the ſurvey a beruite belonging to the king's manor of Fakenham.

This is now a ſmall hamlet, lying about two miles to the north-eaſt of Fakenham, and continues part of that lordſhip at this time.

The inhabitants pay both great and ſmall tithes to the rector of Fakenham, and come to that church; formerly we find there was a chapel dedicated to All Saints belonging to it, ſtanding in 1419.

In Edward I's reign, here were thirty houſes with their families, and they baptiſed and buried here.

THORPLAND. This alſo at the ſurvey was a beruite belonging to the king's lordſhip of Fakenham.

This little hamlet lies about two miles north of Fakenham; and we meet with old evidences mentioning Thorpland-hall, a ſmall lordſhip, depending on that of Fakenham.

In a record of the 10th of Henry IV. it appears, that by an inquiſition taken before the eſcheator, ſir John Le Strange, knt, it was found, that Roger de Lenne gave a meſſuage, one hundred acres of land, ten of meadow and paſture, and 10s. rent, with a fold-courſe in Fakenham, Thorpland, and Althorpe, to be amortiſed to Thorpland chapel, on condition to find a chaplain to pray for the ſoul of the ſaid Roger, which was done (as was ſaid) without the king's licence.

Afterwards the Fermors poſſeſſed Thorpland-hall, and Thomas Fermor, eſq. held it in fee-farm of Q. Elizabeth, as part of the dutchy of Lancaſter, as did ſir Chriſtopher Calthorpe, who lived here in 1680, as appears from ſeveral of his letters here dated, and ſo came to the L'Eſtranges.

The chapel of Thorpland was dedicated to St. Thomas.

On the 30th of July, in the 9th of king James I. the king grants to Francis Morice, of Weſtminſter, eſq. and Francis Philips, of London, Gent. this chapel, then a barn, in the tenure of Jerome Alexander, Gent. and in the ſaid year, November 28, they conveyed it, with half an acre of land whereon it ſtood, to Robert Bumpſtead, of Walſingham Parva.

The inhabitants of this hamlet go to Fakenham church, and pay great and ſmall tithes to the rector.

In the reign of Edward I. it is ſaid there were ninety pariſhioners in this hamlet, when there was a chaplain to ſerve the cure, but no ſepulture or baptiſm belonged to it.

FULMONDESTON, with CROXTON, was the lordſhip of William earl Warren, and held of him by Walter Toke, a great Saxon thane, who held it in the reign of the Confeſſor, and was diſpoſſeſſed at the conqueſt

The family of the Grancourts were early enfeoft of this manor. Walter, ſon of William de Grancourt, was lord in the 11th year of king John, when he gave to the king a good hawk, to be exempted from being put on any aſſize, except between barons. William de Bellemont gave to the king ſixty marks, to have the cuſtody of the ſaid Walter de Grancourt, who was indicted for killing a man,

William de Grancourt was lord in the 45th of Henry III. and in the 52d of that king, was a witneſs to ſeveral writs, (being then chief baron of the Exchequer) dated November 21, directed to the ſheriff of Norfolk, and ſeveral other ſheriffs, reciting, that whereas the king had great occaſion for money, by reaſon of his foreign and domeſtic affairs, that as he would avoid corporal puniſhment, loſs of his goods, and the king's anger, he ſhould ſpeedily pay four hundred marks of the money, due on the ſummons of the laſt *Iter* of the juſtices in that county, otherwiſe he ſhould know that the king would chaſtiſe his neglect in ſuch a manner, that his puniſhment ſhould teach others how to perform the king's commands.

Humphrey de Bohun, earl of Hereford, &c. in the 46th of Edward III. died poſſeſſed of it, and left

two

two daughters and coheirs, Eleanor, afterwards wife to Thomas of Woodſtock, duke of Glouceſter, 6th ſon to king Edward III. and Mary, wife afterwards to Henry earl of Derby, who was king of England by the name of Henry IV. which Thomas, duke of Glouceſter, died lord in the 21ſt of Richard II. when it ſhould have deſcended to Edmund Stafford, earl of Stafford, who married Ann, one of the two daughters, and at length ſole heir to the ſaid duke, but Henry earl of Derby, &c. poſſeſſed it in right of Mary his wife, and king Henry V. and VI. were alſo lords. It remained in the crown till king Richard III. in his firſt year, granted it to Henry Stafford, duke of Bucks, on July 13th, who being ſoon after beheaded (as a rebel againſt the ſaid king) at Saliſbury, it was again in the crown.

On the 7th of March, in the 1ſt of king James I. ſir Edward Coke had a grant to farm it at 37l. per ann. and the manor has been ſome time in that family, the earl of Leiceſter being the late lord.

The church of Fulmondeſton is dedicated to St. Mary. In the reign of Edward I. the prior of Caſtleacre had the patronage of this rectory, with the chapel of Croxton.

The patronage of this living is at preſent in the maſter and fellows of Bennet or Corpus Chriſti college in Cambridge. Dr. John Barnardiſton, the late maſter of Bennet, was preſented by the college to it in the year 1759.

There is a manor in this pariſh of Fulmondeſton independent of the manor in the Holkham family, belonging to John Brown, eſq. of Fulmondeſton.

CROXTON. In the reign of king Edward, this was a village held by Toke, who being ejected, it was granted at the conqueſt to the earl Warren.

It had always the ſame lords as Fulmondeſton: William de Grancourt held it in the 3d of Henry III. and in that year William, ſon of Roger de Huntingfeld, gave lands here to the priory of Caſtleacre, on his founding the monaſtery of Mendham in Norfolk.

It is now, and has been for many years, accounted as an hamlet to Fulmondeſton, and the earl of Leiceſter died lord of it.

On May 17, in the 3d year of Edward VI. ſir William Fermor, knt. and ſir Richard Fulmodeſton had a grant of the advowſon of Fulmondeſton and Croxton.

The chapel, or church, is a ſingle pile, with a chancel covered with thatch, without a ſteeple, and dedicated to St. John the Baptiſt; and the prior of Caſtleacre, as patron of the rectory, was patron of it.

The following very elegant inſcription is on the north wall of the chancel, upon a mural monument of white marble, with this ſhield; argent, a croſs, ingrailed gules; creſt, a buck trippant, proper, with a laurel branch in his mouth, and ——

'P. M. S. Daniel Green, A. M. Coll. S. S. Trin.
'apud Cantab. quondam ſocius nuper eccles. de
'Fulmodeſtun cum Croxton, annos plus quadragin-
'ta rector, omni literarum genere exornatus, ſingu-
'lis provinciæ quadruplicis muneribus, in officinis
'jure ſuis præclare functus, ſacerdotis, pædogogi,
'mariti

'mariti et patris, posteris imitandum. Maximis in 'Deum pietatis, et optimis in hominem virtutis, li-'matum officiis edidit exemplar. Et cum indigno 'de mundo bene diu meruisset, magno perdignus 'honore, in cœlum, alumnos, conjugem et sobolem, 'charus, cœlestem, spretis mundanis benedictionem 'obnixe precatus, ultimum amicis dixit vale, et mi-'gravit defletus. Interim autem Deo clementissimo, 'ingrato orbi et terræ fœcundæ, ad resurrectionem, 'tandem aliquando sperans meliora, animam hu-'millime, famam provide, corpus libenter, foris jux-'ta depositum, commisit, impertivit, reliquit, p. 'J. H. S. A°. Dom. 1700. Ætat. 71.'

CLIPSTON. This was an hamlet to Fulmondeston, held also by Toke, and after by the earl Warren. Walter de Grancourt was lord in the 3d of Hen. III.

HELHOUGHTON, or HELGHETON. Part of this town was a beruite to the king's manor of Rainham, farmed of the king, at the survey, by Godric.

HALGATUN, as this town was wrote, is compounded of Hal, or AL and Ga, which signifies in Saxon, a town, all by the water.

This lordship remained in the crown till king Stephen gave it to William de Cheyney. The said king afterwards granted it to the Hauviles.

It was possessed by Roger Townshend, formerly by sir John Snoring, knt. It came to the Townshends probably on the marriage of the heiress of Hauvile, with the manor also of Rainham, and sir Roger Townshend died possessed of it in 1551: in this family it continues, the lord viscount Townshend being the present lord.

ST. FAITH'S, or HORSHAM PRIORY MANOR. In the 9th of Edward II. the prior of St. Faith's was found to have a lordſhip here.

King Henry VIII. in his 35th year, December 3, granted it to Robert Townſhend, ſerjeant at law, and Gyles Townſhend, eſq. together with the appropriated rectory of this church, and the advowſon of the vicarage; and on the 10th of that month they conveyed it to ſir Roger Townſhend, with the patronage of the vicarage, in which family it remains.

A family who aſſumed their name from the town, was early enfeoffed of this, under the earl Warren. Alan de Helgheton held part of a fee of the earl, about the 18th of Henry III. and in the ſaid reign, Walter Bernardiſton had the third part of a fee.

Sir William de Kerdeſton died lord in the 36th of Edward III.

The principal manor (late Payne's) was in the Townſhends; and in the reign of Henry VIII. ſir Roger Townſhend poſſeſſed it. It came, probably, into the family by the marriage of ſir Thomas Townſhend, in the reign of Hen. VI. with Agnes, daughter of William Payne.

The church is dedicated to All Saints.

Lord viſcount Townſhend is patron of this vicarage, with Rainham St. Martin, conſolidated 1748; and the preſent vicar, the Rev. Charles Allen, formerly of Trinity college, Cambridge, was preſented to this church by the late lord Townſhend in the year 1748.

HEMPTON

HEMPTON. William earl Warren was lord of this village at the ſurvey.

The Britons called many rivers by the name of Anton, or Avon, and it is probable that the river by which this town ſtands was alſo ſo called: and the Saxons retaining many of the ſaid names, called them by corruption, or contraction, An and Han, thus Hampſhire, in Doomſday-book, is wrote Hantſhire, and thus South-Hampton, &c.

Roger de St. Martin was lord in the reign of Henry I.

In the 3d of Edward III. ſir John Bardolf and his parceners were found to hold one fee in this town, Waterden, Baſham, &c. In the ſaid reign, Thomas de Mileham is ſaid to have bought a little manor here, which by the marriage of his daughter and heir, came to William Durrant, eſq.

John de Woolterton, of Baſham, &c. aliened in the 1ſt of Richard II, the manor of Hempton, with lands in Waterden, to the prior of Damſend.

On the 9th of September, in the 37th of Henry VIII. that king granted the prior's manor, with lands in Toftrees, Sculthorpe, Fakenham, Pudding-Norton, &c. to ſir William Fermor and the lady Catherine his wife. Thomas Fermor, eſq. his nephew, held it in the 6th of Edw. VI. in capite, and ſold it to Mr. Richard Benſon, together with the priory.

A church, dedicated to St. Andrew, was ſtanding in the 12th of Henry VII. and was a rectory appropriated to the priory.

In

In the 4th of Edw. I. Roger de St. Martin impleaded the prior, on account of the patronage of this church, and the prior pleaded that William de St. Martin gave it to the priory.

Hempton Priory, was at firſt an hoſpital, and afterwards a priory, founded by Roger de St. Martin, in the reign of king Henry I. for black canons of the order of St. Auſtin, and dedicated to St. Stephen. In the 2d year of king John, the archdeacon of Worceſter (probably John de Brancaſter) gave a palfrey to the king, for a fair to be held yearly, on Tueſday in Whitſun week, for the profit and uſe of the brethren of the hoſpital of St. Stephen, (as then called) by the cauſey of Fakenham; which fair is held at this time on Hempton Green, and is a conſiderable one.

There are two great fairs annually held on Hempton Green, one on Whitſun-Tueſday, and the other on the 22d of November; in the latter of which great herds of Scots lean cattle are expoſed to ſale, which are bought up by the farmers to be fed and fatted upon their turnips, and are afterwards drove to Smithfield market in London, to ſupply the metropolis. This fair was firſt held in the 14th of Edward I.

John occurs prior about the 15th, and Richard occurs prior in the 17th and 28th of Henry VI. when, on the feaſt-day of the conception of the bleſſed virgin, he, with the convent, granted lands in Toftrees, under the common ſeal of the priory, in the chapter-houſe; which was of an oblong form, (of red wax) as moſt religious ſeals, and the image of St. Stephen ſtanding in an arch, between two tapers, with this legend round it; *Sigillum Commune Sancti*

Sancti Stephani de Hempton; and under this the prior, in an arch, kneeling.

The ſcite of this priory, with the rectory appropriated, and the manor, was granted (as before-mentioned) by king Henry VIII. to ſir William Fermor, and the lady Catherine his wife; and Thomas Fermor, his nephew, conveyed them to Richard Benſon, Gent. in the 14th of Elizabeth, and Benſon to Matthew Goſnald, Gent. and he left it in jointure to his wife. Henry Goſnald, his ſon, ſold the reverſion to ſir Thomas Holland, of whom Nicholas Timperly, Gent. bought it.

George lord viſcount Townſhend is the preſent lord.

HOUGHTON, ſo called from its ſituation, which ſignifies High Town, was a beruite to the earl Warren's manor of Rudham. It is alſo called Houghton near Harpley, to diſtinguiſh it from Houghton, near Walſingham, or in the Dale, in North Greenhoe; and Houghton on the Hill, in South Greenhoe.

From the family of Cheyneys it came by marriage to the Belets, and ſeems to be held under them firſt by the De Haveltons, or Houghtons, and after by the Walpoles.

This ancient family of Walpole take their name from the town of Walpole in Marſhland, in Norfolk, where they were enfeoffed of lands belonging to the ſee of Ely. Joceline de Walpole was living at Walpole St. Peter in the reign of Richard I. and in the 1ſt of king John held the ſixth part of a fee in Wiſbich, with half a knight's fee in Walpole, Walton, and Hackbich, with one hundred acres of marſh land

land in Wiſbich, (paying 10s. rent per ann.) of the biſhop of Ely, and 6s. 2d. rent in ſalt; and Adam de Walpole paid the ſame rent in ſalt for lands, &c. Ralph, ſon of Joceline, and Roger his brother, held a virgate and an half in Walpole, paying 5s. 4d. and twenty-ſix combs of ſalt, rent per ann. to the biſhop; and Adam de Walpole held half a virgate in Walpole, paying 12s.

Reginaldus de Walpole, who lived in the reign of Henry I. ſeems to be lineal anceſtor of the preſent family, father of Richard de Walpole, who married Emma, daughter of Walter de Havelton, or Houghton, ſon of William de Havelton, (who was lord of this town) where this family of Walpole reſided after the marriage; and Henry de Houghton had an intereſt here about the end of Henry III's reign

From Reginaldus deſcended ſir John de Walpole, knt. who in the 14th of Henry III. on the king's ſailing into Britanny, had letters of protection, being in the family or retinue of that king, was, by Iſabel his wife, father of ſir Henry de Walpole, knt. who held lands in Houghton, and was knighted by Edward I. About the 50th of Henry III. he was a juſtice of gaol delivery, and ſold lands by deed, *ſans date*, to John de Spalding, (burgeſs of Lynn) in Tyrington, and ſealed, as by his deed appears, with a feſs, between two chevrons; the arms of the preſent earl of Orford. He married Iſabel, daughter of ſir Peter Fitz-Oſbert, of Somerley town, ſiſter and heir to ſir Roger Fitz-Oſbert, and was living in the 14th of Edward I. when a fine was levied between him and Aſceline, daughter of Hugh Lound, or Lovard, of Houghton by Rudham: and at the ſaid time lived Ralph de Walpole, biſhop of Ely,

third ſon of ſir John de Walpole, who after being biſhop of Norwich ten years, was tranſlated to the ſee of Ely, which he held only three years, and died March 20, 1302.

In the 34th of Edward I. Iſabella de Walpole was found to be one of the couſins and heirs of Roger Fitz-Peter Fitz-Oſbert, and John, ſon of Alice Negoun, was the other: ſhe was afterwards the wife of ſir Walter Jerningham: ſir Henry de Walpole was his ſon. To him and Alice his wife, Mr. Robert de Saham, and others, truſtees, granted November 30, in the 4th of Edward II. two parts of this lordſhip, with lands in Walpole and Walton, and all the lands purchaſed by ſir Henry, his father, of Aſceline aforeſaid, with the third part of this manor in reverſion, which Iſabel Jerningham, formerly the wife of ſir Henry his father, held in dower. Sir Henry died about the 9th of Edward III. and Henry was his ſon and heir.

In the 11th of that reign, William le Groſs, parſon of the church of Bently Parva in Eſſex, as a truſtee, ſettled this manor on Henry de Walpole and Margaret his wife, who was daughter of ſir Oliver le Groſs, of Croſtwick.

In the 7th of Richard II. Henry de Walpole and Edmund his ſon, were witneſſes to a deed, and Henry was found to be couſin and heir of ſir John le Groſs, knt. and as ſuch releaſed all his right in his manors: and in the 3d of Henry IV. Henry, ſon of ſir Henry de Walpole, held one fee of the dutchy of Lancaſter, and one quarter of a fee of the lord Bardolf. In 1407, anno 9 Henry IV. he was living, and ſtiled Henry de Walpole, ſenior, eſq. and died about the 20th of Henry VI.

In

In the 10th of Henry VI. Henry de Walpole, his eldeſt ſon, and Margery his wife, were poſſeſſed of ten marks rent iſſuing out of the manor of Haleſhall, near Loddon: ſhe was daughter of ſir John Harſike, knt. of Southacre, and by the name of Henry Walpole, eſq. of Houghton, made his will on the feaſt of the invention of the holy croſs in 1442; "Gives to Catherine his daughter 40l. to-"wards her marriage, and the ſaid ſum to Alice his "daughter, out of the profits of the manor of "Houghton; to Martin his ſon, under age, four "marks per ann. for life, and to have all the lands "which Catherine his father's ſiſter had of the gift "of his father Henry, deceaſed, Appoints Henry "his ſon, Edmund Percy, William Marchale, eſqrs. "his executors, to hold the manor of Houghton, "to perform his will, and after the performance of "it, to Henry his ſon, in-tail male, remainder to "John his ſon; to Henry his ſon, his manor in "Walpole, with the appurtenances, and to John "his ſon the manor of Iſtede in Suffolk." He had three other ſons, William, Martin and Thomas, and was buried according to his will in the church of St. Martin, of Houghton, by his wife; and his will was proved June 27, 1442. Henry his eldeſt ſon, in the 34th of Henry VI. ſettled his manor of Walpole on truſtees. He married an Etchingham, who bore azure, fretty, argent; which arms, impaled by Walpole, were painted on the ſcreens of this church, next to thoſe of Walpole and Harſike. 'Tis probable that he died without iſſue, his brother or ſon, John de Walpole, eſq, granting, in the the 21ſt of Edward IV. to William his brother, the manor of Iſtede in Weybrede, Suffolk; and in the 9th of Henry VII. an inquiſition was awarded into this county, and that of Suffolk, on the death of John Walpole, eſq. who was found to have died ſeiſed of

this manor, held of the manor of Wormegay by knights ſervice; and Thomas was his ſon and heir, by Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Robert Shawe, eſq; of Derby.

Thomas Walpole, gent. ſon and heir of John Walpole, eſq. late of Houghton, deceaſed, gives in the 12th of Henry VII. to Thomas Allen of Walpole, a meſſuage, with fifteen acres of land, alſo ſeven acres, and a ſalt-work, with all the grain belonging lately to his father John Walpole, eſq. lying between the land of the chantrey of St. Mary, which his father had of the gift of John Walpole, late of London, ſon of Martin Walpole, late of Walpole, and the land of Robert Brandon, late of Newton, eſq. Thomas Hunſton, gent. and Philip Sutton, eſq. He married Joan, daughter of William Cobb, of Sandringham, eſq. by whom he had John his eldeſt ſon, who died before him without iſſue, Edward and Henry.

By the name of Thomas Walpole, of Lynne-Biſhop, eſq. he made his will, May 24, 1512, wherein he gives "to his ſon Henry all his purchaſed "lands (his manor of Howeton to remain ten years "in his feoffees hands, to perform his will) and his "manor of Weybrede, five years after the deceaſe "of his wife; his executors to receive the profits of "his lands, tenements, &c. in Walpole, four years "and an half, for the making of his tumbe, and "for making the north ylde of the pariſh church of "Howetone, and that done, the ſaid lands, tene-"ments, &c. in Walpole, to be delivered to the "brodirhood of the holy Trinity in Lynne-Biſhop, "to the intent that the alderman and ſkyvens of the "ſaid gylde ſhall find and pay yerly eight marks to "the wages of an abil priſt to ſynge meſs perpetu-

"ally

" ally for his ſowl, and the ſowl of Jone his wyfe, " in the chapel of our Lady, in the chapel of St. " Nicholas in Lynne. And more, I will that the " ſaid preſte ſhall be at commons and lodging in " the college of the holy Trinity, ſo that he be or- " dered by the ſtatutes of the place, and to have " 6s. 8d. of the ſaid college yerly; and if the ſaid " alderman and ſkyvens, or ſucceſſors, refuſe to per- " form the ſame, &c. I will the ſaid lands, &c. to " be ſold by my executor Jeff. Cobbe, my brother- " in-law, and my ſon Henry Walpole." This was proved April 7, 1513. He was found to die January 24 following, Edward his ſon being then aged 30.

Edward Walpole, eſq. his eldeſt ſon, married Lucy, daughter of ſir Terry Robſert, ſiſter of ſir John Robſert of Syderſtone, and heir to Amy, firſt wife to ſir Robert Dudley, the great earl of Leiceſter in queen Elizabeth's time, daughter and heir of ſir John Robſert.

Edward was buried January 2, 1558, and Lucy Feb. 1, 1559, at Houghton. They had three ſons and one daughter.

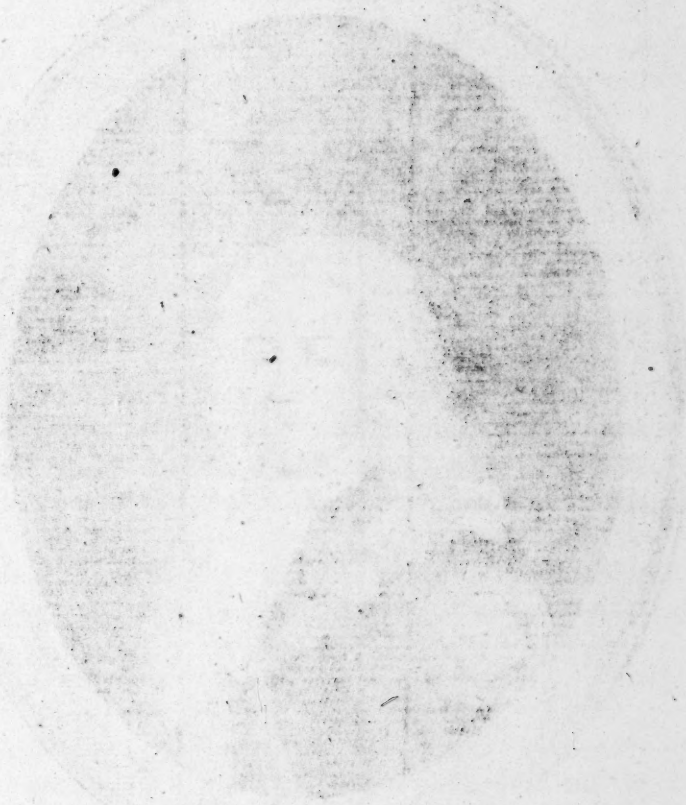
John Walpole, ſon and heir of Edward and Lucy, married Catherine, daughter and heir of William Calybut of Coxford, gent. and was buried in Houghton church, March 29, 1585, and Catherine September 25, 1612, and left Edward Walpole, eſq. his ſon and heir, who was attainted for treaſonable practices at Rome, and died abroad without iſſue, being, as ſome ſay, a Romiſh prieſt. Calybut Walpole, eſq. was his twin-brother and heir, who by Elizabeth, daughter and coheir of Edmund Bacon, of Heſſet in Suffolk, eſq. had ſeveral children, and died May 4, 1646.

To this Calybut, John Walpole, eſq. his father, by his will dated Feb. 28, in the 30th of Elizabeth, gives the manor of Syderſtone, with that of Bircham-Newton, after the deceaſe of the right honourable Robert earl of Leiceſter, with his fold-courſe and lands which he had of Roger Townſhend, eſq. in Bircham-Magna, and all the ſheep going on the ſame. Catherine his wife to have all his lands in Walpole and Walton, to her and her heirs, towards the preferment of his daughter's marriage, and to hold the manor of Houghton for life. Edward, his eldeſt ſon and heir, (as above) was indicted in the King's Bench for ſuppoſed treaſon, (in the 30th of Elizabeth, March 10) done at Rome; and on May 26, 39th of Elizabeth, again indicted. After this on Auguſt 3, in the ſaid year, the queen granted to —— Huſſey and —— Goodman, the forfeited lands of Edward, and they grant them, Sept. 27th following, to Calybut his brother.

Robert Walpole, eſq. ſon and heir of Calybut, married Suſan, daughter of ſir Edward Barkham, knt. lord mayor of London, and died May 1, 1663, and Suſan Nov. 9, 1622, and buried at Houghton.

Sir Edward Walpole, knight of the Bath, and member in parliament for King's Lynn, ſucceeded him as ſon and heir; and by Suſan his wife, daughter and coheir of ſir Robert Crane, bart. of Chilton in Suffolk, left at his death, March 9, 1668, Robert Walpole, eſq. his ſon and heir, member of parliament for Caſtle-Riſing, and deputy lieutenant of Norfolk, who took to wife Mary, only daughter and heir of ſir Jeffrey Burwell, knt. of Rougham in Suffolk, by whom he had nineteen children.

Robert





B: Reading sculpt.

Sir ROBERT WALPOLE, Bt.

Earl of Orford.

Publish'd as the Act directs Decr 23d 1778, by M Booth Norwich.

Robert Walpole, eſq. his third ſon and only ſurviving heir, was born Aug. 26, 1674, ſucceeded to the eſtate of Houghton in November 1700,

He was firſt choſen member for Lynn-Regis the ſame year, and ſerved in parliament for that borough till 1742, excepting one ſeſſions (1711).

In 1705 he was a lord commiſſioner of the admiralty, and in 1707 ſecretary of war; likewiſe treaſurer of the navy, January 1709. In the ſame year he was choſen one of the managers in the houſe of commons, to make good the articles of impeachment againſt the Rev. Dr. Sacheveral.

On the change of the miniſtry in 1710, ſir Robert was removed from his employments during queen Anne's reign; but George I. on his acceſſion to the throne, made him paymaſter of the guards and garriſons at home, and of the forces abroad in 1714.—He was ſworn of his majeſt'y's privy-council, Oct. 1, 1715, and conſtituted firſt lord commiſſioner of the navy, and chancellor of the exchequer, the 10th of the ſame month; both which he reſigned in April 1717, but held the ſame offices again, April 4, 1721.—May 27, 1725, he was inveſted with the enſigns and dignity of Knight of the Bath; and on the 26th of May, 1726, was elected a Knight Companion of the noble order of the Garter.—In 1727, he was choſen a governer of the Charter-houſe; and in July 1738, unanimouſly elected high ſteward of Lynn-Regis.—He was ſeveral times appointed one of the lords juſtices during his majeſty's ſtay in Hanover.

In December 1741, he reſigned all his places at court, and was created, Feb. 9 following, Earl of

Orford in Suffolk, Viſcount and Baron Walpole of Houghton in Norfolk. His lordſhip died, much afflicted with the ſtone, in the 70th year of his age, at his houſe in Arlington-ſtreet, London, on Sunday March 18, 1746.

By his firſt lady, Catherine, daughter of John Shorter, eſq. of Bybrook in Kent, (ſon and heir of ſir John Shorter, knt. lord mayor of London) who died Auguſt 20, 1737, his lordſhip had

1. Robert, created baron Walpole June 10, 1723, in conſideration of his father's great ſervices, the antiquity of his family, &c. and took his place in the houſe of lords accordingly. He had the dignity of the military order of the Bath conferred on him by George II. was afterwards ranger and keeper of Richmond park, clerk of the pells, lord lieutenant and cuſtos rotulorum of the county of Devon, maſter of the harriers and foxhounds, and auditor of the exchequer. He married Margaret, daughter of Samuel Rolls, of Heynton in Devonſhire, eſq. by whom he had George, the preſent earl of Orford. She died the 20th of Auguſt, 1737, and her youngeſt ſon, the honourable Horatio Walpole, erected a monument in Henry the Seventh's chapel, Weſtminſter abbey, with the following inſcription:

To the Memory
of
CATHERINE LADY WALPOLE,
Eldeſt Daughter of John Shorter, Eſq;
Of Bybrook, in Kent,
and
Firſt Wife of Sir Rober Walpole,
Afterwards Earl of Orford.
Horace,
Her youngeſt ſon,
Conſecrates this Monument.
She had Beauty and Wit
Without Vice and Vanity;
And cultivated the Arts
Without affectation.
She was devout,
Tho' without Bigotry to any Sect:
And was without Prejudice to any Party,
Tho' the Wife of a Miniſter;
Whoſe Power ſhe eſteem'd,
But when ſhe could employ it
To benefit the Miſerable,
Or to reward the Meritorious.
She lov'd a private Life,
Tho' born to ſhine in public:
And was an Ornament to Courts,
Untainted by them.
She died Auguſt 20, 1737.

It is ſomewhat remarkable that the two ladies of ſir Robert, firſt and ſecond, were both buried at Houghton within the year.

2. The right honourable ſir Edward Walpole, of Frogmore near Windſor, Knight of the Bath, clerk of the pells, and maſter of the office of pleas in the exchequer, and one of his majeſty's honourable privy council in Ireland.

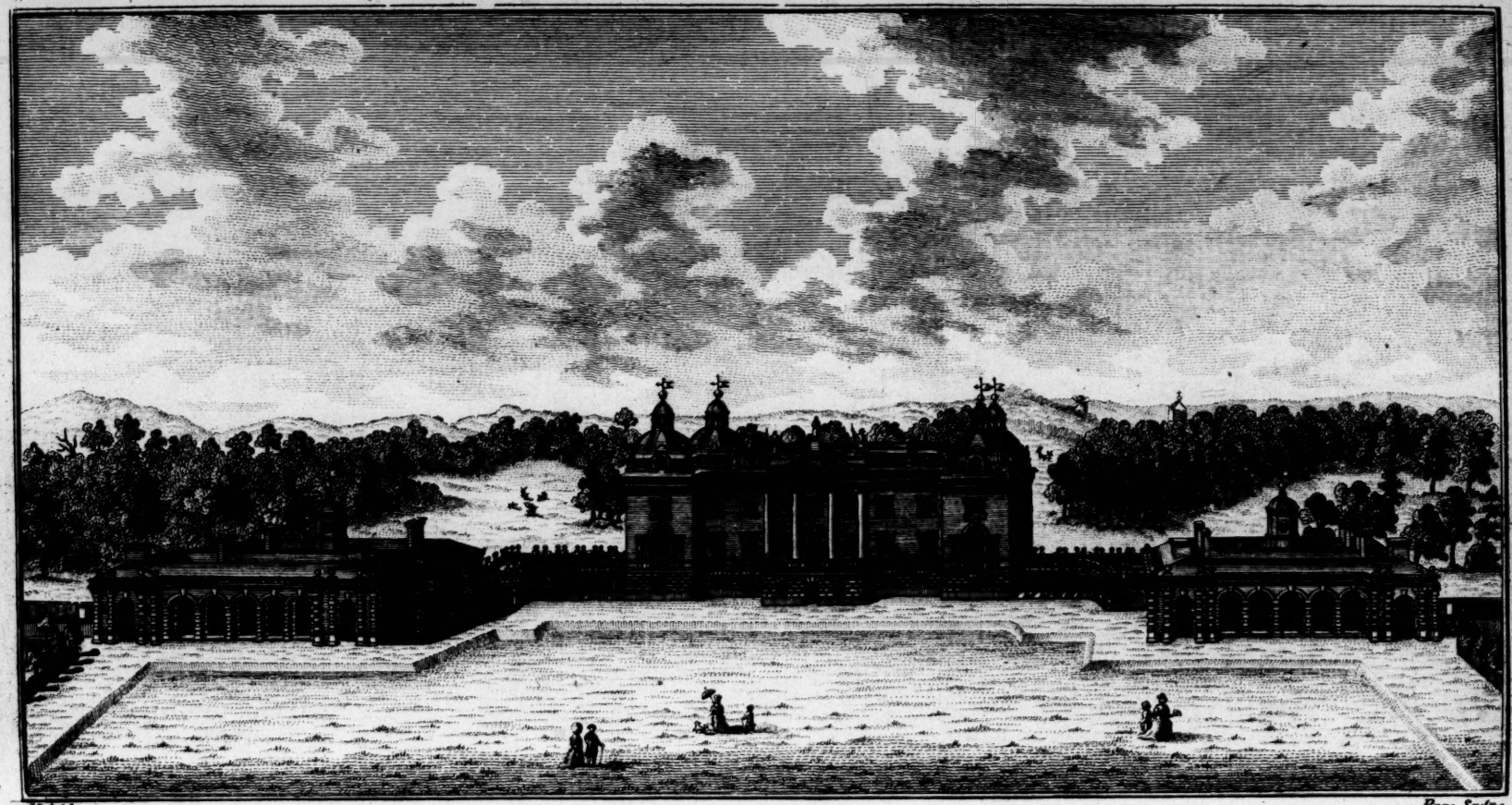
3. The honourable Horatio Walpole, of Strawberry-hill, near Twickenham in Middleſex, fellow of the royal and antiquary ſociety; uſher of his majeſty's exchequer, comptroller of the pipe office, and clerk of the eſtreats in the court of exchequer.

Sir Robert Walpole's ſecond lady was Maria, daughter and heireſs of Thomas Skirret, of Doverſtreet, eſq. who died June 4, 1738, by whom his lordſhip had lady Mary, married to Cha. Churchill, eſq. ſon of the late lieutenant-general Churchill, who ſerved under the duke of Marlborough in Flanders and Germany, in the reign of queen Anne.

Robert, the ſecond earl of Walpole, died April 1, 1751, and was ſucceeded by his only ſon George, the preſent earl, whoſe hereditary and temporary titles are as follow: Earl of Orford, Viſcount and Baron Walpole of Houghton, Ranger of St. James's and Hyde Parks, and a Lord of his Majeſty's Bedchamber; Lord Lieutenant and Cuſtos Rotulorum, and Vice-Admiral of the County of Norfolk, and of the City and County of Norwich; Colonel of the Norfolk Regiment of Militia, a Brigadier-General, and High Steward of the Corporations of Great Yarmouth and Lynn-Regis.

In

HOUGHTON



M.Add.

Page Sculp.

In the year 1722, ſir Robert began the foundation of a moſt noble hall, or palace, of free ſtone, which he finiſhed, and furniſhed in a moſt elegant taſte, and ſumptuous manner.

HOUGHTON-HALL is enriched with the moſt valuable collection of pictures to be ſeen, perhaps, in any houſe in England.

The common approach to the houſe is by the ſouth end door, over which is engraved this inſcription:

Robertus Walpole
Has Ædes
Anno S. M.D.CC.XXII.
Inchoavit,
Anno M.D.CC.XXXV.
Perfecit.

At the entrance on the right hand is the breakfaſt parlour.

Over the Chimney.

1. Hounds, (a very good picture) by Wooton.

On the oppoſite ſide.

2. The return of the prodigal ſon, by Pordenone. A very dark picture; the architecture and landſcape very good. It belonged to George Villiers, the great duke of Buckingham.

Over one door.

3. Sir Edward Walpole, grandfather to ſir Robert: he was made Knight of the Bath at the coronation of king Charles II. and made a great figure in parliament. Once on a very warm debate in the houſe, he propoſed an expedient, to which both parties

ties immediately concurred; on which Waller, the poet, moved that he might be ſent to the Tower, for not having compoſed the heats ſooner when he had it in his power. He married Suſan, daughter to ſir Robert Crane, and is buried in Houghton church, with this plain epitaph,

Here lies Sir Edward Walpole.
Cætera ſi quæras, narrabit fama ſuperſtes.

Over the other door.

4. Robert, ſon to ſir Edward, and father to ſir Robert Walpole.

Over the ſcrutoire.

5, Horatio, firſt lord Townſhend, and grandfather to the preſent lord.

Over the glaſs.

6. Old Harrold, gardener to ſir Robert, by John Ellis.

Oppoſite to the chimney.

7. A greyhound, half length, by Old Wyck, Wooton's maſter.

8. An horſe's head, a fine ſketch, by Vandyke.

Oppoſite to the window.

9. Concert of birds and fowls, by Mario di Fiori. A very uncommon picture; for he ſeldom painted any thing but flowers. It belonged to Gibbins the carver.

In the Dining Parlour.

Over the chimney.

1. His excellency Horatio Walpole, brother to ſir Robert, three quarters length, by Richardſon.—He was ambaſſador in France and Holland, cofferer of the houſhold, and, laſtly, one of the tellers of the exchequer. He was created lord Walpole of Woolterton by George II. in the year 1756.

Oppoſite to the chimney.

2. Charles lord viſcount Townſhend, ſecretary of ſtate, by ſir Godfrey Kneller.

3. Dorothy lady Townſhend, his ſecond wife, by Jervaſe.

On one ſide.

4. Sir Charles Turner, one of the lords of the treaſury: he married to his firſt wife Mary, eldeſt ſiſter to ſir Robert Walpole, three quarters length, by Richardſon.

5. Sir Robert Walpole (when ſecretary at war to queen Anne) and

6. His lady; both by Jervaſe.

On the other ſide,

7. The battle of Conſtantine and Maxentius; a copy, by Julio Romano, of the famous picture in the Vatican, which he executed after a deſign of Raphael. The ſtory is thus told by Zoſimus, hiſt. lib. 2. "Tantis cum ambo copijs inſtructi eſſent, &c. Tignis autem minime ſuſtinentibus eam vim oneris, adeoq; ruptis, cum cætera multitudine Maxentius etiam fluminis impetu abripiebatur."

Over doors.

Four ladies belonging to the Walpole family, viz.

8. Ann Walpole, aunt to ſir Robert Walpole. She was wife to Mr. Spelman, of Narborough in Norfolk.

9. Dorothy Walpole, ditto, died unmarried.

10. Mary Walpole, ditto, married to John Wilſon, eſq. of Leiceſterſhire.

11. Elizabeth Walpole, ditto, ſecond wife to James Hoſte, eſq. of Sandringham in Norfolk.

The

The hunting-hall.—*At the upper end.*

1. An hunting match, by Wooton—This picture repreſents three harriers, formerly belonging to lord Orford, afterwards to the late duke of Cumberland, and three buck-hounds belonging to king George II, Conſiderable wagers were laid on both ſides, but the latter were remarkably defeated.

Oppoſite to it.

2. An hunting piece, by Wooton.—Sir Robert Walpole is in green, Col. Charles Churchill in the middle, and Mr. T. Turner on one ſide. Sir Robert is drawn upon a white horſe which formerly belonged to the Pretender, and was taken in the rebellion in 1715.

Oppoſite to the chimney.

3. Suſannah and the two elders, by Rubens.

Through the arcade you come at the coffee-room, at the upper end of which is,

1. Galatæa, by Zimeni.

Oppoſite to it.

2. Jupiter and Europa, after Guido, by Pietro da Pietris.

Over the chimney.

3. A landſcape, with figures dancing, by Swanivelt.

On the right hand of the chimney.

4. Horatio Walpole, uncle to ſir Robert, and commonly called the Black Colonel: he married lady Ann Oſborne, daughter of Thomas, firſt duke of Leeds, and widow of Robert Coke, eſq. of Holkham in Norfolk, grandfather to the late earl of Leiceſter.

On

On the left hand.

5. Galfridus Walpole, eſq. younger brother to ſir Robert, and one of the general poſtmaſters; by Richardſon.—He was captain of the lion in queen Anne's wars, and was attacked by five French ſhips on the coaſt of Italy againſt three Engliſh, two of which deſerted him; but his own he brought off, after fighting bravely, and having his arm ſhot off.

In the Bed-chamber.

1. The converſion of St. Paul, by Paul Veroneze.

Upon the grand floor; in the Anti-chamber.

1. A landſcape, in the ſtile of Claude Lorrain, by Wooton.

The blue damaſk Bed-chamber: it is hung with tapeſtry.

Over the chimney.

1. Sir Robert Walpole, afterwards earl of Orford, in his chancellor's robes, by Vanloo.—He was prime miniſter to king George I. and king George II.

Quem neque Tydides, nec Lariſſæus Achilles, non Anni Domnere decem.

Over three doors.

2.
3. } Landſcapes, by Wooton.
4.

The Drawing Room.

'Tis hung with yellow caffoy. Over the chimney is a genteel buſt of a Madona in marble, by Camillo Ruſconi: above is carving by Gibbins, gilt; and in it a fine picture by Vandyke.

1. Of

1. Of two girls, daughters of lord Wharton.—Theſe came out of the Wharton collection, with all the other Vandykes in this room, and ſome others now at lord Orford's at the Exchequer.

On the right hand of the chimney.

2. King Charles I. in armour, by Vandyke.—By a miſtake both the gauntlets are drawn for the right hand.

3. Henrietta Maria of France, his queen, by ditto.

On the left hand of the chimney.

4. Philip lord Wharton, by ditto.

5. Archbiſhop Laud, by ditto.—The univerſity of Oxford once offered the Wharton family 400l. for this picture.

Over the door.

6. Lord chief baron Wandersford, by ditto.—He was head of the Caſtle-Comer family.

Over the ſettee.—In the center.

7. Lord Walpole, the ſecond earl of Orford, by Roſalba.

On the right hand.

8. Sir Edward Walpole, ſecond ſon to ſir Robert, by ditto.

On the left hand.

9. Horatio Walpole, eſq. third ſon, by ditto.

On the right hand.

10. Lady Cholmondely, (not finiſhed) a profile ſketch, by Jervaſe.

On the left hand.

11. Lady Maria Walpole, by Pond, (now lady Maria Churchill).

On

On the ſide next the bed-chamber.

12. A ſleeping Bacchus, with nymphs, boys, and animals, by Luca Jordano.

Over the door.

13. Jane, daughter of lord viſcount Wenman, by Vandyke.—The hands, in which Vandyke excell'd, are remarkably fine in this picture.

On the oppoſite ſide.

14. The judgment of Paris, companion to No. 12, by Luca Jordano.—There is an odd diffuſion of light all over this picture. The Pallas is a remarkable fine figure.

Over the door,

15. Lady Wharton, by Vandyke.

The cieling is exactly taken, except with the alteration of the paternal coat for the ſtar and garter, from one that was in the dining-room of the old houſe.

The Saloon.

The hanging is crimſon flowered velvet. On the great table is an exceeding fine bronze of a man and woman, by John of Boulogne; given by Horace Mann, eſq. king's reſident at Florence.

On the other tables are two vaſes of oriental alabaſter.

Over the chimney.

1. St. John baptiſing Chriſt, by Albano.—His large pieces are ſeldom good; but this is equal, both for colouring and drawing, to any of his maſter Caracci, or his fellow ſcholar Guido. It belonged to Mr. Lawes, firſt miniſter to the regent of France.

Over the door on the right hand.

2. The adoration of ſhepherds, by Morellio.—All the light comes from the child.

Over the door on the left hand.

3. The aſſumption of the Virgin, its companion, by Morellio.

On the ſide next the Drawing-room,

4. The ſtoning of St. Stephen, by Le Sœur.—A capital picture: it contains nineteen figures, and is remarkable for expreſſing a moſt maſterly variety of grief. The ſaint, by a remarkable anacroniſm, is in the habit of a modern prieſt at high maſs.

Over the door on the right hand.

5. Dædalus and Icarus, by Le Brun,—The ſtory is taken from Ovid.

Over the door on the left hand.

6. The Cyclops at their forge, by Luca Jordano. This belonged to Gibbins.

On the ſide next the Hall, on the right hand of the door.

A capital picture.

7. Mary Magdalen waſhing Chriſt's feet, by Rubens.—Our Saviour is repreſented at an entertainment given him at the houſe of Simon the Phariſee; three Apoſtles are drawn with him, four Phariſees, and ſeveral attendants, men and women; in all fourteen figures, large as life.

On the left ſide of the door.

A capital picture.

8. Holy Family, with a dance of angels, by Vandyke.—This picture was twice ſold for 1400 l. ſince

ſince that it belonged to the houſe of Orange. The princeſs of Frieſland (mother to the preſent prince of Orange) ſold it during his minority, when ſir Robert bought it. It coſt him 1000l.

The ſix uppermoſt pictures, three of which are on the left hand of the door, viz.

9. Holy Family, (in a round figure) by Cantarini. The child is learning to read.

10. Ditto, by Titian.—A very fine picture.

11. Simeon and child, by Guido.—From Monſieur de Morvile's collection.

On the right hand,

12. Virgin and Child aſleep, by Aug. Caracci.

13. Old woman giving a boy cherries, by Titian. 'Tis Titian's ſon and nurſe.

14. Holy Family, by Andrea del Sarto.—Theſe two laſt were from the collection of the marquis Mari at Genoa.

The Cieling.

Apollo driving his chariot of the ſun, in chiaro oſcuro, by Kent.

The Carlo Maratt Room.

The hangings are green velvet: there is in it a table of lapis lazuli, and at each end are two ſconces of maſſive ſilver.

Over the chimney.

1. Pope Clement IX. of the Roſpiglioſi family; a moſt admirable portrait, by Carlo Maratti.—This picture was bought by Jervaſe, the painter, out of the Arnaldi palace at Florence. Nothing can be finer than this: the boldneſs of the pencilling is as

remarkable as his delicacy in his general pictures. Carlo Maratti was ſo pleaſed with this picture, and it was ſo much admired, that he did ſeveral of them. One in particular is at lord Burlington's at Chiſwick. It coſt three hundred guineas.

The four uppermoſt pictures on the chimney ſide,

2. The pool of Betheſda.
3. Chriſt's ſermon on the mount.
4. Apollo and Daphne.
5. Bacchus and Ariadne; all by Gioſeppe Chiari, a ſcholar of Carlo's.——The beſt of the four, the Bacchus, ſeems to be taken from the Apollo Belvedere; as the ideas of the Ariadne and the Venus evidently are from the figures of Liberality and Modeſty in the famous picture of Guido's, in the collection of the marquis del Monte at Bologna. There are four pictures about the ſize of theſe in the Spada palace at Rome, by the ſame hand: two juſt the ſame with theſe two laſt; the other two are likewiſe ſtories out of the Metamorphoſes.
6. The marriage of St. Catherine, by Carlo Maratti.
7. The Aſſumption of the Virgin, by ditto.—She has a deep blue veil all over her. 'Tis on the left hand of the chimney.
8. Its companion, ditto, on the right hand, by Nicholo Beretoni.
9. The Virgin and Joſeph, with a young Jeſus, in the manner of his maſter Andrea Sacchi, by Carlo Maratti.

At the end next the ſaloon.

In the center, a capital picture.

10. Galatæa ſitting with Acis, Tritons and Cupids, by C. Maratti.

Under

Under the Galatæa.

11. The Virgin, our Saviour, and St. John, (unfiniſhed) large as life, by C. Maratti.

On the right hand,

12. Flight into Egypt, by Morellio.—In the manner of Vandyke.

13. The head of St. Catherine, (profile) by Guido Reni.

14. St. Cœcilia with four angels playing on muſical inſtruments, by C. Maratti.—This was in the Pallavicini collection.

Over the door.

15. A naked Venus and Cupid, in a very particular ſtile, by C. Maratti.

On the left hand of the ſame ſide.

16. A crucifix, by Morellio.

17. The head (with a glaſs before it) in a great ſtile, by Raphael.

18. Virgin teaching the child to read, by C. Maratti.—Gioſeppe Chiari has executed this thought in the Barberini palace at Rome; but with alterations. In this the Virgin is in red, Gioſeppe's is in white; and inſtead of St. John, St. Elizabeth, and the angels, he has drawn a cardinal reading.—This was alſo in the Pallavicini collection.

At the end next the bedchamber.

In the center.

19. A capital picture, companion to Galatæa, viz. the Judgment of Paris, king Priam's ſon, by Carlo Maratti.——C. Maratti was then eighty-threeyears old; yet has none of the rawneſs of his latter pieces. It came out of the Pallavicini collection. The earl

of Strafford has a very good copy of it by Gioſeppe Chiari.

Under it,

20. The Virgin Mary, our Saviour and St. John, by Nicholo Beretoni, Carlo's beſt ſcholar.——This picture is equal to any of his maſter's. The grace and ſweetneſs of the Virgin, and the beauty and drawing of the young Jeſus, are incomparable.

On the right hand.

21. St. John the Evangeliſt, by C. Maratti.

22. Diana, in crayons, by Roſalba.

23. The preſentation of the Virgin in the Temple, by Luca Jordano.——This and its companion (the birth of Chriſt) are finiſhed deſigns for two large pictures, which he painted for the fine church of the Madonna della Salute at Venice.

On the left hand.

24. Two ſaints worſhipping the Virgin in the clouds, by C. Maratti.

25. Apollo, in crayons, companion to No. 22, by Roſalba,

26. The birth of Chriſt, by Luca Jordano.

Over the door.

27. Hercules and Omphale, by Romanelli.

The Cieling.

Ornaments in chiaro oſcuro, by Kent.

The Velvet Bed-chamber.

The bed is of green velvet, richly embroidered and laced with gold; the ornaments deſigned by Kent. The hangings are tapeſtry, repreſenting the loves of Venus and Adonis, after Albano.

Over

Over the firſt door.

1. A landſcape, by Griffier.

Over the chimney.

2. Alexander hanging up a garland upon the tomb of Achilles, by Le Mer.—Vid. Q. Curtius, 2d book, 4th chap. The head of Alexander is taken from his medals; the figures are in the true antique taſte, and the buildings fine.

Over the other door.

3. A ſea-port, by Greffier.

The Cieling.

Aurora riſing, chiaro oſcura, by Kent.

The Dreſſing-room.

This room is hung with very fine gold tapeſtry, after pictures of Vandyke. There are whole-length portraits of king James I. queen Anne his wife, (daughter of Frederick II. king of Denmark) Charles the Firſt and his queen, and Chriſtian IV. king of Denmark, brother to queen Anne. They have fine borders of boys, with feſtoons, and oval pictures of the children of the royal family.

At the upper end of this room is a glaſs-caſe filled with a large quantity of ſilver philegree, which belonged to Catherine lady Walpole.

Over the chimney.

The books of the Sybils found in the tomb of Numa Pompilius, by Le Mer.—The painter has miſtaken and repreſented a large number of books; whereas the hiſtories ſay, that when the Sybil offered them at firſt to Tarquinius Superbus, there were but nine; and on his twice refuſing them, ſhe burnt

ſix, and then made him pay the firſt demanded price for the remaining three, which were kept in a ſtone vault with the greateſt care, and only conſulted upon extraordinary occaſions by two of the nobility, who had the charge of them. There is a remarkable anacroniſm in this picture: the painter has thrown in among the buildings the Septizonium Severi; now Sylla's dictatorſhip began in the year 672 U. C. and Severus did not begin his reign till 945 U. C. or 193 A. D.

Some authors ſay there were only three at firſt; two of which were committed to the flames by her that ſet them up to ſale to Tarquin, who not coming up to the price of the three volumes, bought the third for as much as was demanded for all three.

The trueſt account is nine, vid. Prideaux's Connection, vol. iv. page 880.

The pieces of Dogs over doors.

2. } By Jervaſe.
3. }

The Cieling.

Spring with flowers, chiaro oſcuro, by Kent.

The Embroidered Bed-chamber.

The bed is of the fineſt Indian needle-work. His highneſs Francis duke of Lorrain, afterwards Grand Duke of Tuſcany, and ſince Emperor, lay in this bed, which ſtood then where the velvet one now is.

Over the chimney.

1. Holy Family, large as life, by Nicholo Pouſſin.—'Tis one of the moſt capital pictures in this collection. The airs of the heads, and the draperies, are in the fine taſte of Raphael; and the antique

Elizabeth's

Elizabeth's head, is taken from a ſtatue of an old woman in the Villa Borgheſe at Rome.

Cattle over doors.

2. } By Roſa de Tivoli.
3. }

The Cieling.

Luna and Endymion, chiaro oſcuro, by Kent.

In the Cabinet.—Over the chimney,

A celebrated picture of Rubens's wife, by Vandyke.—She is in black ſattin, with a hat on.

On the ſide oppoſite to the chimney.

1. Rubens's family, by Jordaens of Antwerp.—Rubens is playing on a lute: his firſt wife is ſitting with one of their children on her lap, and two others before her. There are ſeveral other figures and genii in the air. This picture belonged to the duke of Portland.
2. A winter piece, by Giacomo Baſſan.
3. A ſummer piece, by Lionardo Baſſan.
4. Friars giving meat to the poor, by John Miel.
5. St. John, by Carlo Dolci.
6. Dobſon's father's head, by Dobſon.
7. Head of Innocent X. by Velaſco.——Velaſco was ſent by the king of Spain to draw this Pope's picture. When the Pope ſent his chamberlain to pay him, he would not receive the money, ſaying, the king his maſter always paid him with his own hand. In which the Pope humoured him too.—This Pope was of the Pamphilii family, was reckoned the ugglieſt man of his time, and was raiſed to the Papacy by the intrigues of his ſiſter-in-law Donna Olimpia, a moſt beautiful woman, and his miſtreſs.

8. Boy

8. Boy with a flute, by Cavalier Luti.

9. A banquet; companion to No. 4, by John Miel.

10. Dying officer at confeſſion, by Bourgognone. —Very bright colouring and fine expreſſion.

11. Boors at cards, (ſmall) by Teniers.

12. Chriſt in the ſepulchre, by Giacomo Baſſan. —A very particular picture. The lights are laid on ſo thick, that it ſeems quite baſſo relievo. 'Tis a fine deſign for a great altar-piece which he has painted at Padua. This picture was a preſent from lord Waldegrave, embaſſador at Paris.

13. Virgin with the child aſleep, by Sebaſtian Concha.

14. Virgin and child, painted on black marble, by Morellio.——It was given by Benjamin Keene, eſq. embaſſador at Madrid.

15. Landſcape, with officers, by Bourgognone.

16. Holy family, by Rottenhamer.

17. Judgment of Paris, by And. Schiavone.

18. Chriſt in the ſepulchre, by Parmegiano.—— This is one of the fineſt pictures he ever painted; and for which there is a tradition that he was knighted by a duke of Parma. There are eleven figures: the expreſſion, the drawing and colouring, the perſpective and chiaro oſcuro, are as fine as poſſible. The figure of Joſeph of Arimathea is Parmegiano's own portrait.

19. Wiſe mens offering, (ſmall) by Velvet Brueghel.—There are a multitude of little figures, all finiſhed with the greateſt Dutch exactneſs. The ideas too are a little Dutch: for the Ethiopian king is dreſſed in a ſurplice with boots and ſpurs, and brings for a preſent a gold model of a modern ſhip.

20. Boors at cards, (large) by Teniers.

21. Chriſt in the garden appearing to Mary Magdalen, by Pietro da Cortona.——An exceeding fine picture.

22. Judgment of Midas, by And. Schiavone.

23. Virgin and child, by Baroccio.

24. Naked Venus ſleeping, by Annibal Caracci. A moſt perfect picture; the contours of the colouring exceſſively fine.

25. Holy family, with St. John upon a lamb, by Williberts, a ſcholar of Rubens, who has made a large picture, from whence this is taken, now in the palace Pitti at Florence. This is finely finiſh'd, and the colouring neater than Rubens.

26. Virgin and child ſtanding, (painted on black marble) by Alexander Veroneſe.

27. Boors drinking, by Oſtade.

28. Landſcape, with ſoldiers, companion to No. 15, by Bourgognone.

29. Battle piece, companion to No. 10, by ditto.

30. Three ſoldiers, by Salvator Roſa.

31. King Edward VI. by Hans Holbein.—This was in the royal collection, and upon the diſperſion of king Charles's pictures in the rebellion, ſold into Portugal; where it was bought by lord Tyrawley, embaſſador at Liſbon, and given to lord Orford.

On the ſide oppoſite to the window.

1. Landſcape, with a waterfall and ſheep, by Sebaſtian Bourdon.——'Tis Laban ſearching for his images. When Jacob withdrew privately from Laban, Rachel ſtole her father's idols, which he purſued them to demand. Gen. xxxi. 33.

2. Holy family, by John Bellino.—It belonged to Mr. Lawes.

3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8. Six drawings for triumphal arches, deſigned for the entrance of Albert, archduke of Auſtria, into Antwerp.

Albert

Albert married the Infanta Iſabella, Philip the Second's daughter.

Mr. Walpole, in his book, ſays, "They were "deſigned for triumphal arches on the entry of the "Infant Ferdinand, of Auſtria, into Antwerp.— "They are printed with a deſcription of that feſti- "val."—Rubens,

In the center.

9. Cieling of the banquetting-houſe, by Rubens. —'Tis the original deſign of Rubens for the middle compartment of that cieling, and repreſents the aſſumption of king James the Firſt into Heaven. It belonged to ſir Godfrey Kneller, who ſtudied it much, as is plain from his ſketch for king William's picture in the parlour.

10. Bathſheba bringing Abiſhag to David, 1ſt Kings i. by Vanderwerffe.——Given by the duke of Chandois.

11. A flower-piece,
12. A fruit-piece, } by Vanhijyſam.

Vanhijyſam's brother lived with lord Orford, and painted moſt of the pictures in the attic ſtory here.

13. }
14. } Landſcapes, by Gaſper Pouſſin.

15. Chriſt appearing to Mary Magdalen, by Philippo Laura.

Over three doors.

16. Holy family, by Matteo Ponzoni.—A moſt uncommon hand, and a very fine picture.

17. Murder of Innocents, by Sebaſtian Bourdon.

18. The death of Joſeph; our Saviour and the Virgin attending him, by Velaſco.

On

On the ſide of the Chimney.

19. A Chriſtopher, by Elſheimer.—A very ſmall picture. Here is a common error among the Roman Catholic painters. In the diſtant landſkip is an hermit, with an oratory of the Virgin Mary, at the time that St. Chriſtopher is carrying Jeſus, yet a child.—At Bologna there is an old picture of the Salutation, where the angel finds the Virgin Mary praying before a crucifix, with the Officium Beatæ Virginis in her hand.

The Cieling.

Minerva trampling upon Envy, by Kent.

The Marble Parlour.

On the ſide next the cabinet.

1. Henry Danvers, earl of Danby, whole length, by Vandyke.——This lord was created a baron by James I. and made Knight of the Garter and earl by Charles I.

On the ſide next the hall.

2. Sir Thomas Wharton, Knight of the Bath, by ditto.—From the Wharton collection.

Over two doors.

3. } Two fruit-pieces, by Michael Angelo Cam-
4. } pidoglio.
From Mr. Scawen's collection.

Over another door.

5. The Aſcenſion, by Paul Veroneſe.

Over the other.

6. The Apoſtles after the Aſcenſion, by ditto.

One

One entire ſide of this room is marble, with alcoves for ſide-boards, ſupported with columns of Plymouth marble. Over the chimney is a fine piece of alto relievo in ſtatuary marble, after the antique, by Ryſbrack; and before one of the tables, a large granite ciſtern.

The Grand Hall.

The hall is a cube of forty feet, with a ſtone gallery round three ſides. The cieling and the frieze of boys are by Altari. The baſs-reliefs over the chimney and doors are from the antique.

The figures over the great door, and the boys over the leſſer doors, are by Ryſbrack.

In the frieze are baſs-reliefs of ſir Robert Walpole and Catherine his firſt lady; and of Robert lord Walpole (their eldeſt ſon) and Margaret Rolles his lady.

From the cieling now hangs a very fine chandelier, in the room of a gilt lanthorn, which was ſold to the earl of Cheſterfield. The chandelier was bought at lord Cholmondeley's ſale, 1748, by the preſent earl of Orford.——Party gave out at the firſt putting up the lanthorn in ſir Robert Walpole's time, that he gave a ball upon the occaſion, and eighteen couple danced in it: this was circulated in the Craftſman and other political papers of the day. The lanthorn was far unequal to the grandeur of the hall, and was therefore with great judgment taken down by the preſent earl of Orford.

Before a nich over-againſt the chimney is a fine ſtatue of Laocoon and his two ſons, ſtung to death by

by ſerpents; caſt in bronze by Girardon. It was bought by lord Walpole at Paris, and coſt a thouſand guineas.

Over the chimney is a buſt of lord Orford, by Ryſbrack.

On the tables, the Tyber and the Nile, in bronze, from the antiques in the capitol at Rome.

Two vaſes in bronze, from the antiques in the villas of Medici and Borgheſe at Rome.

The buſt of a woman, a moſt beautiful antique.

The buſt of a Roman empreſs, antique.

On Terms and Conſoles round the Hall, are the following Buſts and Heads.

Marcus Aurelius, antique.
Trajan, ditto.
Septimius Severus, ditto.
Commodus, ditto
The two laſt were given to Gen. Churchill by Cardinal Alboni, and by him to ſir Robert.
A young Hercules, ditto.
Baccio Bandinelli, by himſelf.
Fauſtina ſenior, antique.
A young Commodus, antique.
Homer, modern.—Heſiod, ditto.

Jupiter, antique.—A philoſopher, ditto.
Hadrian, ditto.—Pollux, ditto. } *Heads.*

In the Paſſage to the Gallery are,

Rome—Minerva—Antinous—Apollo---Belvedere, by Camillo Ruſconi.

A philoſopher's head.

Julia pia Severi, antique.

In the veſtibule, in niches, are ſix vaſes of Volterra alabaſter.

Cieling of the Hall.—Arms of the family.

The great Stair-caſe.

Upon four Doric pillars is a fine caſt, in bronze, of the Gladiator, by John of Boulogne.—Given by Thomas late earl of Pembroke.

Huntings, with proper ornaments, by Kent.

The Dining Parlour above Stairs.

Over the chimney is ſome fine pear-tree carving, by Grindelin Gibbins; and in the middle hangs

1. A portrait of him by ſir Godf. Kneller.—— 'Tis a maſter-piece, and equal to any of Vandyke's.

On the right hand of the chimney.

2. King William on horſeback, by ditto—An exceeding fine ſketch for the large equeſtrian picture, which ſir Godfrey afterwards executed very ill at Hampton-Court, and with ſeveral alterations.

3. Holy family, with St. Francis and Catherine, by Raphael da Reggio, ſcholar of Zucchero.

4. Architecture, by Steenwych.—A fine picture, in perſpective.

On

On the left hand of the chimney.

5. King George I. on horſeback, companion to No. 2. but ill finiſhed. The figure is by ſir Godfrey Kneller, which he took from the king at Guildford horſe-race. The horſe is new painted by Wooton.

6. Stud of horſes, by Woovermans.

7. Venus bathing, and Cupids with a carr, &c. by Andrea Sacchi.

Over one door.

8. Mrs. Ann Lee, daughter to ſir Henry Lee, by ſir Peter Lely.—She was married to Mr. Wharton, afterwards created a marquis; and was herſelf a celebrated poeteſs. Vid. Waller's poems.

Over the other door.

9. Mrs. Jane Deering, miſtreſs to the marquis of Wharton, by ſir Peter Lely.

At the end next the Hall.

In the center.

1. A Cook's Shop, by Martin de Vos, who was Snyder's maſter, and in this picture has excelled any thing done by his ſcholar: it is as large as life.—There is a greyhound ſnarling at a cat, in a moſt maſterly manner.

Under it.

2. The ſchool of Athens, by Le Brun.—After Raphael's fine picture in the Vatican.

On the right hand.

3. A man in his ſhirt, by Salvator Roſa.

4. Inigo Jones, by Vandyke.

5. Rembrandt's wife, by Rembrandt.

On the left hand.

6. Rubens's wife, by Rubens.

7. Mr. Lock, by ſir Godfrey Kneller.——This is the only original picture of Mr. Lock, and was bought of one Geechy, brother to the doctor.

8. A Spaniſh poet writing, by ſir Godfrey Kneller. His name was Joſeph Carreras.

At the End next the Library.

In the center.

1. A Cook's Shop, by Teniers.—'Tis in his very beſt manner. There are ſeveral figures; in particular his own, in a hawking habit, with ſpaniels; and in the middle an old blind fiſherman, finely painted.

Under it.

2. A Bacchanalian, by Rubens.—'Tis not a very pleaſant picture; but the fleſh of the Silenus and the female ſatyrs are highly coloured. There is a ſmall deſign for this picture, revers'd, in the great duke's tribune at Florence.

On the right hand.

3. Eraſmus, by Holbein.

4. Francis Halls, maſter to ſir Godfrey Kneller, by Halls.

5, Sir Thomas Challoner, by Vandyke.—An admirable portrait. Sir Thomas was governor to Henry prince of Wales. Vid. Strafford papers, vol. i. page 490.

On the left hand.

6. Sir Thomas Greſham, founder of Greſham college, by Antonio More.

7. A

7. A friar's head, by Rubens.

8. The Nativity, by Carlo Cignani.—The thought of this picture is borrowed, as it has often been by other painters, from the famous Notte of Coreggio, at Modena, where all the light of the picture flows from the child.

Over doors.

Two landſcapes of ruins, by Viviano.

In the LIBRARY.

Over the chimney.

King George I. full length, in his coronation robes, by ſir Godfrey Kneller.—'Tis the only picture for which he ever ſat in England.

The little Bed-chamber.

This room is all wainſcotted with mahogony, and the bed, which is of painted taffety, ſtands in an alcove of the ſame wood.

Over the chimney is an half length, by Dahl, of Catherine Shorter, firſt wife of ſir Robert Walpole, eldeſt daughter of John Shorter, eſq. of Bybrook in Kent, by Elizabeth, daughter of ſir Eraſmus Philips, of Picton Caſtle in Pembrokeſhire. This is an excellent good portrait.

Oppoſite to it.

A portrait of Maria Skerrett, ſecond wife to ſir Robert Walpole, by Vanloo.

The Gallery.

'Tis ſeventy-three feet long by twenty-one feet high; the middle riſes eight feet higher, with windows all around; the cieling is a deſign of Serlio's

in the inner library of St. Mark's in Venice, and was brought from thence by Mr. Horace Walpole, jun. The frieze is taken from the Sibyl's temple at Tivoli. There are two chimneys, and the whole room is hung with Norwich damask. It was intended originally for a green-house, but on sir Robert Walpole's resigning his employments, Feb. 9, 1742, he brought down all his pictures from Downing-street house, which belongs always to the first lord of the treasury; and the year following this room was fitted up for them.

On the south side.

1. A fruit-market, by Rubens and Snyder.

2. Horatius Cocles defending the bridge, by Mola.——Thus described by Livy, lib. ii. cap. 10. "Quum hostes adessent, pro se quisq; &c. Grata "erga tantam virtutem civitas fuit: statua in comi- "tio posita: Agri quantum uno die circumaravit, "datum; privata quoque inter Publicos Honores "studia eminebant: namin magna inopia pro do- "mesticis copiis unusquisque ei aliquid, fraudans "se ipse victu suo, contulit."

3. Two women, (an emblematical picture) by Paris Bourdon.—From Mr. Flinck's collection. Some say 'tis Harry the 4th of France, and two favourite mistresses, sisters to each other, The late lord Orford himself was at a loss about it.

4. Holy family, by Old Palma,—From Monsieur Flinck's collection.

5. A Bacchanal, (companion to Cyrus, No. 20) by Castiglioni,—The subject, which at first seems to be the story of Orpheus, but certainly is not, from the principal figures being thrown into the distant landscape, was guess'd by lord Orford to be taken from this stanza of the 19th ode, lib. 2. of Horace.

Bacchum

Bacchum in remotis carmina Rupibus
Vidi docentem: (Credite poſteri)
Nymphaſq; diſcentes, et aures
Capripedum Satyrorum acutas.

6. A cart overturning by moonſhine, by Rubens. —It was lord Cadogan's.

7. Africa, a landſcape, by Paul Brill.

8. An old woman ſitting in her chair, by Rubens. —Bought at Mr. Scawen's ſale.

9. Cupid burning armour, by Elizabetta Sirani, Guido's favourite ſcholar.

10. Uſurer and wife, by Quintin Matſis, the blackſmith of Antwerp.——This picture is finiſhed with the greateſt labour and exactneſs imaginable, and was painted for a family in France. It differs very little from one at Windſor, which he did for king Charles I.

In the center.

11. Lioneſs and two lions, by Rubens.—Nothing can be livelier, or in a greater ſtile, than the attitude of the lioneſs.

12. Architecture, by Julio Romano.——'Tis a kind of a ſtreet, with various marble palaces in perſpective, like the Strada Nuova at Genoa. The buildings and baſs-reliefs are extremely fine; the latter, eſpecially, are ſo like the hand of Polydore, that we ſhould rather think that this picture is by that maſter than by Julio Romano, whoſe it is called. There are ſome figures, but very poor ones; and undoubtedly not by the ſame hand as the reſt of the picture. There is an officer kneeling by a woman, who ſhews the Virgin and Child in the clouds ſitting under a rainbow.—About the year 1525, Julio Romano made deſigns for Aretine's Putana Errante, which were engraved by Marc Antonio, for which

the latter was put in priſon, and Julio fled to Mantua. Two years after Rome was ſack'd by Charles V. who made public proceſſions and prayers for the delivery of the Pope, (Clement VII.) whom he kept in priſon. 'Tis ſuppoſed the figure kneeling in this picture is Charles V. who is prompted by religion to aſk pardon of the Virgin (above in the clouds) for having ſo ill treated the Pope, The figure ſitting on the ſteps is certainly Aretine, and the man in priſon in the corner Marc Antonio. Vid. Bayle in artic. Aretine.——This picture was a preſent to lord Orford from general Charles Churchill.

13. Old woman reading, by Boll.—An extreme fine protrait, bought at the duke of Portland's ſale when he went governor to Jamaica.

14. The Holy Family, by Camillo Proccacino.—A groupe of heads.

15. Job's friends bringing him preſents, by Guido.—A fine picture, which he has executed in large, and in his brighteſt manner. In the church of the Mendicants at Bologna, this is dark; but there is moſt maſterly ſkill in the naked, and in the diſpoſition of the figures.

16. Marcus Curtius leaping into the gulph, by Mola.——An exceeding fine picture. There are multitudes of figures, fine attitudes, and great expreſſions of paſſion. To ornament the diſtant proſpect, he has committed ſome anacroniſms, by placing among the buildings an amphitheatre, which was of far later invention, and the pantheon with the portico of Agrippa. Now Pompey was the firſt who made a laſting theatre: before him they were temporary, and often deſtroyed by publick authority. Statilius Taurus built the firſt amphitheatre, in the fourth conſulſhip of Auguſtus. This action of Curtius happened in the year 391 U. C. and the portico was built by Agrippa (who died 741 U. C.) in his third

third conſulſhip, as appears by the inſcription ſtill remaining: M. Agrippa L. F. Coſ. III. fecit. The ſtory of this exploit is thus told by Livy: "Eodem "Anno (viz. U. C. 391) ſeu motu terræ, &c." lib. 7. cap. 6.—This picture, and its companion, belonged to Gibbins the carver.

17. Fowl market, by Rubens and Snyder.

18. Europe, a fine landſcape, companion to No. 7, by Paul Brill.—The figures by Dominichino.

19. Dives and Lazarus, by Paul Veroneze.——There are few of him better than this: the building is particularly good. It belonged to Monſieur de Morville, ſecretary of ſtate in France.

20. Expoſing of Cyrus, by Caſtiglioni.——This ſubject is taken from Juſtin, lib. i. cap. 4,

21. Adoration of ſhepherds, (companion to No. 4.) by Old Palma.——This is taken from the col: lection of Monſieur de la Vrilliere, ſecretary of ſtate in France. It coſt 300l.

22. Shepherd and ſhepherdeſs, by Carlo Cignani.

On the Weſt.

1. Abraham's ſacrifice, by Rembrandt.——Abraham's head and the naked body of Iſaac are very fine. The painter has avoided much of the horror of the ſtory, by making Abraham cover the boy's face, to hide the horror from himſelf.

2. Scipio's continence, by Nicola Pouſſin.——Painted with all the purity and propriety of an ancient baſs-relief. The ſtory is told by Livy. lib. 26. cap. 50. "Captiva deinde, &c."——This picture likewiſe belonged to Monſieur de Morville.

In the center.

3. Abraham, Sarah, and Hagar, (Gen, xvi.) by Pietro Cortona.—The great duke has a ſmall ſketch

for this, but reverſed, and with the Sarah and other figures at a diſtance: the Hagar is much fairer than in this.

4. Child in the manger, by Guido Reni) or the adoration of the ſhepherds, octagon.—A moſt perfect and capital picture, not inferior to the Doctors. The beauty of the Virgin, the delicacy of her and the child, (which is the ſame as in the Simeon's arms in the ſaloon) the awe of the ſhepherds, and the chiaro oſcuro of the whole picture, which is in the fineſt preſervation, are all incomparable. You ſee the ſhepherds ready to cry out one to another, "Deus, Deus ille, menalca!" There is one of this ſame deſign in the church of the Chartreuſe at Naples, large as life, oblong, with many more figures, but unfiniſhed. This belonged to M. de Morville. It coſt 500l.

5. Old man and ſticks, by Salvator Roſa.

6. Moſes ſtriking the rock, (companion to No. 2.) by Nicola Pouſſin.——There is a great fault in this picture. Moſes is by no means the principal figure; nor is he ſtriking the rock angrily, and with a great air, but ſeems rather ſcraping out the water. The thirſt in all the figures, the piety in the young man lifting his father to the ſtream, and the devotion in others, are extremely fine. It was painted for Stella, and bought of a French nobleman in the beginning of the laſt war between France and the emperor Charles VI. who declared he ſold it to pay for his campaign equipage.

On the North, or Chimney Side.

1. Fiſh market, by Rubens and Snyder.

2. A ſea-port, by Claude Lorain.——A very fine picture. There is a bright ſun playing on the water, and the whole ſhine of the picture is in his very

very beſt manner. It belonged to Monſieur de Morville.

3. A landſcape, by Gaſper Pouſſin.—'Tis in his dark manner, but fine. This and No. 14, its companion, were in the collection of the marquis di Mari.

Over the chimney.

4. Is that capital picture, and the firſt in this collection, the Doctors of the church. They are conſulting on the immaculate conception of the Virgin, who is above in the clouds. This has been a moſt controverted point in the Romiſh church.

In the year 1387, the Dominicans were expelled the univerſity of Paris for oppoſing the doctrine of the immaculate conception, and many of them were killed.

In 1438 the Council of Baſil declared it immaculate; and, laſtly, in 1655, Alexander VII. peremptorily determined it to be ſo.

In this picture, which is by Guido, in his brighteſt manner, and perfectly preſerved, there are ſix old men as large as life. The expreſſion, drawing, deſign and colouring, wonderfully fine. In the clouds is a beautiful virgin all in white, and before her a ſweet little angel flying. After ſir Robert had bought this picture, and it was gone to Civita Vecchia to be ſhipped for England, Innocent XIII. then pope, remanded it back, as being too fine to be let go out of Rome; but on hearing who had bought it, he gave permiſſion for its being ſent away again. It was in the collection of the marquis Angeli.—This picture coſt 700l.

5. Jocunda, a ſmith's wife, reckoned the handſomeſt woman of her time, by Lionardo de Vinci.—She was miſtreſs to Francis I. king of France. She would often ſit half naked, with muſick, for ſeveral hours

hours together, to be drawn by him. Mr. Richardſon has another of them. This was Monſieur de Morville's.

Mezeray calls her La Ferroniere, and ſays, her huſband being enraged at the king's taking her, caught on purpoſe a very violent diſtemper, which he communicated through her to the king, who never recovered it. The ſame ſtory is told of lord Southeſk and king James II. when duke of York.

6. Holy Family, with angels, by Valerio Coſtelli.

7. Virgin and child, by Dominichino.—Bought out of the Zambeccari palace by H. Walpole. It coſt 230l.

In the center.

8. Meleager and Atalanta, by Rubens.—A cartoon, larger than life, brought out of Flanders by general Wade. It being deſigned for tapeſtry, all the weapons are in the left hand of the figures. Vid. Ovid's Metamorph. lib. 3.

9. Apollo, by Cantarini, contemporary with Guido.

10. Eagle and Ganymede, by Michael Angelo Buonoretti.——A ſubject often repeated, but with alterations. The king has one larger, and the queen of Hungary another, painted in Teniers's gallery. There is another in the Altieri palace at Rome.

11. The Salutation, by Albano.—A fine finiſhed picture. The angels are much the ſame with thoſe in the great picture by this maſter in the ſaloon.

Over the other chimney.

12. The prodigal ſon, by Salvator Roſa.—This fine picture was brought out of Italy by ſir Robert Geare, and carried back by him when he went to live

live there. Upon his death it was ſent back to England to be ſold. It coſt lord Orford 500l,

13. Herb market, by Rubens and Snyder.

N. B. Beſides theſe four markets by Snyder, viz. fowl, fiſh, fruit and herbs, there are two more of them at Munich, an horſe and fleſh market.

14. A landſcape, by Gaſper Pouſſin.—Companion to No. 3.

15. A calm ſea, by Claude Lorain.—Companion to No. 2. A moſt pleaſing picture. There are two figures on the fore ground, Apollo and the Sybil. She is taking up an handful of ſand, for every grain of which ſhe was to live a year. Apollo granted her this boon as the price of her perſon, which afterwards ſhe refuſed him. The promontory is deſigned for Cumæ, the reſidence of the Sybil.—— Among the buildings are the ruins of the Caſtellum Aquæ Martiæ, with the trophies of Marius, which are now placed in the capitol.

On the Eaſt.

1. Moſes in the bullruſhes, by Le Sœur.—Given by the duke of Montague.

2. Sheep and cows, by Teniers.——In his beſt manner.

3. The Laſt Supper, by Raphael.——It was in the Arundel collection, and is printed in the catalogue of thoſe pictures: from thence it came into the poſſeſſion of the earl of Yarmouth, and from him to ſir John Holland, of whom lord Orford bought it. It is in fine preſervation.

Over the door.

4. A dead Chriſt, by Ludovico Caracci.

5. Wiſe mens offering, by Carlo Maratti.—He has

has painted another of them in the church of the Venetian St. Mark at Rome.

6. A landſcape, with a caſcade and ſheep, by Gaſper Pouſſin.—A very fine picture. It was bought at the late earl of Halifax's ſale.

7. Solomon's Idolatry. 1 Kings xi. by Stella.—'Tis painted on black and gold marble, which is left untouched in many places for the ground. There are many figures finely finiſhed, and ſeveral beautiful airs of womens heads.

Upon the marble table, a dead Chriſt.

The preſent earl of Orford has moſt generouſly given leave to Mr. Boydell to take drawings of the moſt capital pictures in this collection, to be engraved for the inſpection of the public, and theſe drawings have been executed in a moſt maſterly manner by thoſe two ingenious artiſts, Mr. Joſeph and Mr. George Farrington, who are greatly deſerving the patronage of all noble encouragers of arts and ſciences, like the preſent earl of Orford.

The arms of this earl are; topaz, on a feſs, between two chevrons, diamond, three croſs croſlets of the field,——the creſt on a wreath, the buſt of a man ſide-faced, couped proper; on his head a ducal coronet, and therein a long cap, ruby, charged with a catherine wheel, and taſſelled at the top, which was the creſt of the Robſerts.—Supporters, on the dexter ſide, an antelope, pearl, attired proper; unguled, topaz, and gorged with a collar exchequette, topaz and ſapphire, with a golden chain affixed thereto, parting between his fore legs, and reflexed over his back. On the ſiniſter, an hart, pearl, attired proper, unguled and gorged with like collar and chain. Motto, "Fari quæ ſentiat."

It

It is to be obſerved that this account of the family is taken chiefly from ancient records, and for a larger account, Mr. Collins on the peerage, may be conſulted.

The church of Houghton is a regular pile, having a nave, a north and ſouth iſle covered with lead, with a ſteeple, and is dedicated to St. Martin.

This church was rebuilt by ſir Robert Walpole, and in the middle of it was made a vault for the family, and ſir Robert, with his eldeſt ſon, the late earl of Orford, are interred in it.

At the weſt end of the nave is a monument, raiſed about a foot from the pavement, in form of a coffin; on the lid or cover, which is an entire piece of grey marble, is carved a curious antique figure of a prior, or abbot, in his robes, his hands ſpread on his breaſt, above them a croſs, his head ſhaven, a dæmon couchant at his feet. It appears to have been made in the reign of Edward I. in memory of a prior of Coxford, from whence, as tradition reports, it was brought here after its diſſolution.

Near to this, on a marble grave-ſtone, with a plate of braſs, —— *Orate p. aia.* —— *Pyckard de Howeton, qui obt.* XVII *Die Januar. Aº. Dni.* M. VC. Xº.

On the pannels of the ſcreen, between the nave and chancel, are the arms of Walpole, impaling Harſike;——or, on a feſs, between two chevronells, three croſs croſlets, ſable, Walpole; and or, a chief indented ſable, Harſike; alſo Walpole impaling, azure, fretty argent, Echingham.

At

At the eaſt end of the ſouth iſle lie ſeveral marble grave-ſtones, viz. Walpole, in a lozenge, and *M. S. — Catherina, filia natu maxima præhonorabilis Roberti Walpole et Dominæ Cather. uxoris, nata* 30, *Maii* 1703, *denata* 11, *Oct.* 1722.—*Edwardus Walpole Armiger, filius natu maximus Roberti et Mariæ, ſepultus eſt,* 3°. *Febr.* 1697 *Ætat.* 22°. with the arms of Walpole.——*Mary Turner, born April* 28*th* 1693, *buried January* 21, 1694; *and Mary Turner, born July* 19, 1696, *both daughters of Sir Charles Turner, Knt. and Mary his wife.*

Hic jacet Robertus Walpole Armig; juxta Suſannam uxorem, filiam Edv. Barkham de Southacre in com. Norf. Militis, quæ obt. A°. Dni. 1622; *natus fuit* 23 *Sept. A°. Dni.* 1593, *denatus fuit feſto Sancti Philippi et Jacobi A. D.* 1663, with the arms of Walpole, impaling, argent three pallets gules, and a chevron over all, or, Barkham.

In the chancel lie ſeveral marble grave-ſtones.—*Maria uxor Robti. Walpole Armiger; quam filiam habuit unicam Galfridus Burwell, miles, de Rougham, in agro Suffolc. Annos nata ad octo et quinquaginta mortem, obt.* 14 *Martii* 1711. With the arms of Walpole, and in an eſcutcheon of pretence;—or, a chevron ermine, between three burdock leaves proper, Burwell.——*Robertus Walpole Armig; filius natu maximus, Edw. militis Balnei et Suſannæ, hic ſepultus eſt decimo octavo die Non. A°. Dni.* 1700, *Ætat. ſuæ Quinquageſimo, Ex decem quos genuit filiis, ſuperfuerunt Robertus, Horatio, Galfridus; ex filiabus ſeptem, Maria, Dorothea et Suſanna.* With the arms of Walpole and Burwell.

H. I. Horatio Walpole Armig; filius natu minor Edw. Walpole, Balnei militis, qui obt. Quinquagenarius, 17 *Oct.*

Oct. A. D. 1717, with Walpole impaling, quarterly, ermine and azure, a croſs or, Oſborn,

Hic ſitus eſt Edv. Walpole, Balnei Miles, Robi. Walpole, armig. filius, qui Suſannam, Robti. Crane, Baronetti de Chilton, in agro Suff. filiam connubio ſibi junxit, major quadraginta quinq. annos, 18 *die Martii,* 1667, *morte pia illuſtravit.*

Cætera ſi quæras narrabit fama ſuperſtes.

Walpole, and in an eſcutcheon of pretence,—argent, a feſs between three croſs croſlets fitchee, gules, Crane.

Domina Suſanna a latere Edv. Walpole, Balnei Militis, hic conditur, quæ obt. 7 *Julii, A°. Dom.* 1667, *Ætat.* 35.

The patronage is in the preſent earl of Orford, and the vicar, preſented by his lordſhip in 1768, is the Rev. Anthony Carr, vicar of Shernborne.

KETTLESTON, called Kateſtuna, and Kettleſtuna, in Doomſday-book. Kat, or Cat, is the name of a river, or water; thus Catwick in Yorkſhire, Catworth in Huntingdonſhire, &c. and Catter, or Catre, a river in Rutlandſhire.

Part of this town was a beruite to the king's manor of Fakenham, at the ſurvey, and held by king Harold before the conqueſt.

HAUVILE'S, or POMFRET'S MANOR. This was granted to Ralph de Hauvile by king Henry II. to be held of the crown by *petit ſerjeanty*, the keeping the king's falcons, together with Dunton.

After

After this it was poſſeſſed by ſir Robert Knollys, and was ſettled on his hoſpital, or college, at Pomfret; and in the 3d of Henry V. John Stedman, &c. as maſter of that houſe, was ſeiſed of a moiety of this town, anciently royal demeſne, and no part of the dutchy of Lancaſter.

After the diſſolution of the aforeſaid hoſpital, it was granted May 17, in the 3d of Edward VI. to ſir William Fermor and ſir Richard Fulmerſtone, and ſir William died ſeiſed of it in 1558; on whoſe death Catherine, his lady, poſſeſſed it, and brought it by marriage to Nicholas Mynne, eſq.

Sir William Drury was lord in the 22d of Elizabeth, and aliened it, with the queen's licence, to Thomas Taverner, who by his will, dated April 10, 44th of the ſaid queen, grants the manor of Pomfret's to his wife Mary for life. Robert was his ſon and heir, aged 31, who dying September 5, 1612, left by Ann, his wife, a daughter and ſole heir, Mary, being married to Francis Shouldham, eſq. ſon and heir of William Shouldham, eſq. who died April, 1655, aged 84, whoſe immediate heir and deſcendent, Robert Shouldham, M. D. ſucceeded to it, and his heirs at preſent enjoy it; the principal of which is the Rev. Mr. Robert Rolfe, rector of Hilborough near Swaffham, who was his nephew.

Francis above-mentioned was ſon of William Shouldham, eſq. and brother to Humphry Shouldham, eſq. the ſons of John Shouldham, eſq. lord of Marham and Shouldham, which John died in 1551, and Humphry died lord in 1566; this William married Dorothy, daughter of John Smith, of Blackmore in Eſſex, eſq.

ROCHFORD'S MANOR. Part of this town belonged to the earl Warren's lordſhip of Eaſt-Baſham,

The family of De Hyndryngham had antiently an intereſt herein: Ralph and William de Hauvile confirmed by deed, *ſans date*, to William, ſon of Hamon de Hyndryngham, all the rent, &c. which they were to receive of their tenants in Kettleſton.

In the 28th of Edward III. ſir Saier de Rochford conveyed it to Ralph de Rochford, his ſon, and Maud his wife, from whom it came to the Welbys, &c.

Sir William Fermor died poſſeſſed of it in the 1ſt of Elizabeth, and his lady Catherine brought it to Mynnes, and ſo came to Taverner and Shouldham, as is above ſhewn, being united to the manor of Hauvile's or Pomfret's.

The lordſhip of Fulmondeſton extended into this town, and was held by the Grancourts.

It went with the lordſhip of Fulmondeſton, and was in the crown, on the death of Henry Stafford, duke of Bucks, in the reign of Richard III.

The church is dedicated to All Saints, and is a rectory.

In the year 1721, the Rev. John Branthwayte, brother of Miles Branthwayte, eſq. of Hethel near Norwich, and father of the preſent Miles Branthwayte, eſq. of Taverham, was preſented to this living by the late king George I. The preſent rector is the Rev. Mr. James Cory, preſented in 1766.

PENSTHORPE, takes its name from its ſcite, a thorp or village, by a river or water, called Pen. In Doomſday-book it is wrote Peneſtorpa, and was then the lordſhip of Rainold Fitz-Ivo, who had many lordſhips granted to him by the Conqueror, all which came into the family of the earls of Clare.

In the 3d of Edward I. Simon Fitz-Richard was found to have the aſſize of bread and beer, free warren, and a gallows.

In 1351, ſir Hamon de Felton preſented to the rectory of this church, as lord.

John Spoo was lord after this, in right of Nicholaa, daughter and heir of Richard Fitz-Simon, who in the 13th of Richard II. conveyed it by fine, with the manor of Bawſey, to ſir Robert Carbonel, knt.

Sir Richard Carbonel, by his will, dated Nov. 4, 1429, ſettled it in order to pay his debts; and Thomas Brigge, eſq. of Salle, lord of this town and Wood-Dalling, died poſſeſſed of it in 1444.

Thomas Heydon, eſq. a younger ſon of ſir John Heydon, was lord in 1572: in the 29th of Elizabeth, William Heydon had a præcipe to deliver it to ſir John Cotton, knt. and in the 33d of that queen, Thomas Croft, eſq. had one, to render it to Edmund Stubble, eſq.

In the 3d of James I. Edward Sulyard, eſq. ſon and heir of ſir John Sulyard, was found to die lord of this manor.

In the 5th of Charles I. Francis Houghton was found to die ſeiſed of it, held of the honour of Clare.

In 1720, Anthony Hamond, eſq. of Wooton, was lord, and in that family it remains; Richard Hamond, eſq. his ſon and heir, poſſeſſed it, and the preſent lord and patron is Anthony Hamond, eſq. of Weſt-acre High Houſe. The Rev. Mr. Richard Hamond was preſented to this living in 1768.

NORTON, or PUDDING-NORTON, was an hamlet of beruite, at the ſurvey, belonging to the king's manor of Fakenham.

It is ſuppoſed to take its adjunct name of Pudding from its dirty ſcite, or by a ſtream of water; as Puddington, and Puddlebridge, in Devonſhire; Puddlemere in Somerſet, &c.

Edmund de Lexham, ſon of John de Lexham, was lord in the 6th of Edward I. and in the 26th of the ſaid king, John de Lexham, as lord, held a court baron, had free bull and boar, and the aſſize of bread and beer.

In the 21ſt of Edward II. John de Mundeford, as heir to the de Lexhams, held this manor of the lord Scales, and he of the king.

By marriage it came to ſir William Tindale, Knt. of the Bath, who died lord in the 12th of Henry VII. His grandſon ſold it to Richard Benſon, eſq. in the 13th of Elizabeth, who alſo ſold it five years afterwards to Ferdinando Paris, eſq. of Linton in Cambridgeſhire, in which name it remained till 1698.

Sir Francis Andrews, one of the coheirs, purchaſing the rights of Mary, wife of Charles Hacon, of Frances, wife of Peregrine Short, and of Philippa, the wife of John Haſtings, became lord of this ma-

nor, and lived there in the year 1700. Sir Francis deſcends from Thomas Andrews, eſq. who was high ſheriff of Northamptonſhire in 1587, and attended at the execution of Mary queen of Scots, at Fotheringay. He was ſucceeded by Robert Andrews, eſq. of Harleſton in the ſaid county, who by Elizabeth his wife, daughter of William Gent, eſq. was father of ſir William Andrews, of Denton in Northamptonſhire, created baronet, December 11, 1641; who by Catherine his lady, daughter of John Flamſtede, of Denton, had two ſons; ſir John, the eldeſt, dying without iſſue, was ſucceeded by his brother ſir William, who (by Eleanor, daughter of Edward Atſlow, eſq. of Downham-hall in Eſſex, and his wife Eleanor, daughter and coheir of Philip Paris, eſq.) left at his death, Auguſt 15, 1684, ſir Francis Andrews, bart. who by his lady Bridget, daughter of ſir Thomas Cliſton, of Latham in Lancaſhire, had a ſon, William, a lunatic, and a daughter, Bridget, married to Philip Southcote, eſq. of Weybridge in Surry, a younger ſon of ſir Edward Southcote, of Witham in Eſſex, who was the late lord, ſir Francis having reſigned it to him.

Hempton Priory Manor, extended into this town. The lord Bardolf held it of the earl Warren.

After the diſſolution, king Henry VIII. granted it, Sept. 9, in his 37th year, to ſir William Fermor, and Thomas Fermor, eſq. his nephew, ſold it to Richard Benſon, eſq. from whom it came to the Paris's, &c. and was united to the capital manor abovementioned.

In the 24th of Edward III. Thomas Berte, of Wadeton, and Elizabeth his wife, confirmed to Hamon de Wodenorton, and Joan his wife, and the heirs

heirs of their bodies, all the lands, tenements, and fold-courſe in Pudding-Norton.

In the 5th of Henry V. it appears that there were two manors, called Newhall and Pekhall, and the ſcite of Newhall was by the church.

William Lamming conveyed it to Richard Benſon, and ſo this came alſo to the Paris's, &c. and to ſir Francis, and to Southcote, who was lord of the whole village.

The church, which is now in ruins, was dedicated to St. Margaret.

The Rev. Michael Bridges was preſented to this rectory in the year 1744, by Charles Cooper Morley, eſq. of Baſham, formerly high ſheriff of the county of Norfolk.

RAINHAM, (or Reineham, as it is wrote in the book of Doomſday) EAST, SOUTH and WEST, takes its name from being ſeated near a running ſtream of water, or river; Rye and Rey, ſignifying as much in the Saxon tongue; thus we find a town in Eſſex, in the hundred of Chaſſard, Rainham, on a river near its falling into the Thames; and thus Braintree, in Eſſex, occurs in Doomſday by the name of Raine, being by a river. Thus the river Rhine, and Reineburgh, a city in Germany, on that river.

At the grand ſurvey it is placed in the hundred of Brothercroſs, but at this time (and for ſeveral centuries paſt) is accounted as a part of the hundred of Gallow; and great part of this town was then one of the lordſhips which the Conqueror beſtowed on Hugh de Montfort, one of his Norman

chiefs and barons. Bond, a noble Saxon thane of great poſſeſſions, held it in the Confeſſor's time, together with many other lordſhips in Norfolk.

South Rainham was then a beruite, that is, a leſſer manor, and depending on this.

This lordſhip, held by Hugh de Montfort, was afterwards divided, and held by two different families, the Inglethorpes, and the Scales.

INGLETHORPE'S MANOR, takes its name from its lords, who appear from ancient records to be ſeiſed of it in the reign of king John and Henry III. a family of great eminency in the county of Norfolk.

Sir Thomas de Ingaldeſthorp was ſon and heir of Alan, and is termed in old records *the Red:* he is mentioned in the pipe rolls of the 8th year of king John, and in the 3d of Henry III. and was ſheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk in or about the 8th or 9th of that king; as was Hubert de Ingaldeſthorp in the 5th of the ſaid king. Sir Thomas was acceſſary in a murder in the 9th year of king John.

Thomas, ſon of the abovementioned ſir Thomas, was alſo a knight, ſheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk in 1272, and died ſoon after. Thomas de Ingaldeſthorp, biſhop of Rocheſter, was one of his ſons, and ſir John de Ingaldeſthorp was his ſon and heir, and was ſummoned amongſt the barons to attend the king in the Welſh wars.

On the death of ſir John de Ingaldeſthorp, in or about 1282, Thomas was found to be his ſon and heir, aged 22. In the 13th of Edward II. he appears to be a knight, and a commiſſioner for the bank-

banks and ſewers of Marſhland in Norfolk, as lord of Wimbotſham.

He was ſucceeded by his ſon ſir John, who lived at Rainham, and the family before him, for many years.

Among the mortuaries received by the convent of Marham, about the year 1407, (in which year ſhe is ſaid to have died) we find this :—*Received for the lady Alianore's mortuary, late wife of Sir William Ingaldeſthorp, a mantle furr'd with grey.*

Iſabel, only daughter and heireſs of ſir Edmund Ingaldeſthorp, who died in 1456, married John Nevill, created marquis Montacute, (and Knight of the Garter, ſecond ſon of Richard earl of Saliſbury, and brother to Richard the great earl of Warwick) and afterwards on the attainder of the earl of Northumberland, had that honour alſo conferred on him by king Edward IV. which laſt title he was obliged ſoon after to reſign, the attainder aforeſaid being taken off. The marquis, with his brother Guy, earl of Warwick, were both killed in the battle of Barnet, April 14, 1471, fighting againſt king Edward IV.

Upon a diviſion of the eſtate of the Ingaldeſthorpes, &c. which was not till in or about the 11th of Henry VII. this manor of Rainham, with that of Wimbotſham in Norfolk, Sauſton, &c. in Cambridgeſhire, came to Iſabella, married to ſir William Huddleſton, of Millum Caſtle in Cumberland.

In the year 1543, ſir John Huddleſton, her grandſon, appears to have been lord of this manor, and to have ſold it to ſir Roger Townſhend, knt.

This

This lordſhip being thus conveyed into the family of Townſhend, wherein it remains at this time, it will be proper in this place to treat of the ſame, from ancient records and authentic evidences.

It is undoubtedly a family of great antiquity in this county: Collins, in his hiſtory of the peerage, ſays, that Lodowic, or Lewis, a Norman, ſurnamed Townſhend, ſoon after the conqueſt, married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Thomas Haywell, (rather Hauvile) and was ſucceeded by ſir Walter de Townſhend, who took to wife Maud, daughter of ſir Roger Scogan, knt.——But this will appear to be a great miſtake. The family is wrote in old deeds, &c. *Ad Exitum Villæ.—William ad Exitum Villæ*, that is, Townſhend, or Tunneſend, held conſiderable lands of the prior of Norwich's lordſhip in Taverham, in the reign of king John.

Stephen, ſon of Walter Atte Townſhend, lived in the reign of Henry III. and about the ſame time lived Thomas Atte Townſhend, of Weſt Harling, poſſeſſed of a valuable eſtate, &c. and ſealed then with a chevron, between three eſcallops, the arms of the family at this day.

Thomas, ſon of William Atte Townſhend, of Snoring Magna, lived in the ſaid town, ſettled all his eſtates in that town, Snoring Parva, Thorpeland and Baſham, in Norfolk, on John his ſon and heir, by deed, dated July 11, 1377, wherein he mentions Roger, his brother.

John, ſon of John aforeſaid, was living at Snoring Magna in 1378 and 1396; he added much to the family eſtate, and held part of a fee in Rainham Magna and Parva, of Roger Mortimer earl of March,

of

of the honour of Clare, in 1398, and was the firſt of the family that ſettled at Rainham, or had any intereſt therein.

About the year 1400, ſir Walter de Townſhend was living, ſon of ſir Lodowick de Townſhend, whom Collins places at the head of this family, and ſays that he married Elizabeth, daughter and heireſs of Thomas Hauvile, and to have lived ſoon after the conqueſt: that Collins is miſtaken, in reſpect of the time that ſir Lodowic lived, appears from this proof; ſir Walter aforeſaid married Maud, daughter of ſir Roger Scogan, knt. by whom he had a ſon Roger.

Roger, ſon of ſir Walter, took to wife Catherine, daughter of John Atterton, eſq. of Suſſex, and was father of ſir Thomas Townſhend, whoſe wife Agnes was daughter of Willian Payne, Gent.

This ſir Thomas was buried in the choir of White Friers church, in Fleet-ſtreet, London: and on the 1ſt of April, 1421, letters of adminiſtration were granted to Agnes, relict of ſir Thomas Townſhend, and Roger Townſhend, of Rainham, (ſon and heir of ſir Thomas) of the goods of Thomas Payne, probably brother of Agnes, (Collins ſays Eleanor) which family held a lordſhip in Helhoughton, and their eſtate came to the Townſhends. The ſaid Roger Townſhend, eſq. was a feoffee for the manor of Welborne, in Forehoe hundred, in 1444, and married Eleanor, daughter of ſir Thomas Gigges, of Rolleſby in Weſt Flegg.

John, his ſon and heir, ſucceeded. Joan, his wife, was daughter and heir of ſir Robert Lunsford, of Rumford in Eſſex, and was buried in the middle of the body of the church of St. Mary in Rainham.

Roger Townſhend, eſq. ſon and heir of John and Joan his wife, was entered a ſtudent of Lincoln's-Inn, elected a governor of that ſociety in the firſt year, &c. of king Edward IV. and Lent reader. In 1461, the third part of the manor of Hauvile's in Rainham, by fine levied, was conveyed to him by Henry Argenton. He was member of parliament for Calne in Wiltſhire; and in 1476, purchaſed by fine of Roger Oliver, of London, Sherman, and Elizabeth his wife, their intereſt or part in Hauvile's lordſhip, ſo that the whole was now in this family.

In the 17th of Edward IV. he was called to the degree of ſerjeant at law; in 1480 ſummoned to be an aſſiſtant to the houſe of lords in parliament; in the 1ſt of Edward V. king's ſerjeant at law; and, in the following year, was appointed a juſtice of the common pleas. King Henry VII. renewed his patent, and knighted him in his chamber at Worceſter, on Whitſunday before his coronation.

He married Anne, daughter and coheireſs of ſir William Brews, of Stinton-hall in Norfolk, who brought him that manor, and a great inheritance in land: by this lady he had ſix ſons and ſix daughters, Roger, John, Robert, George, Thomas and Giles; of the daughters, Thomaſine was the wife of ſir Thomas Wodehouſe, of Kimberley, knight of the Bath; —— to Anthony Caſtell, of Raveningham, eſq. Anne betrothed to Philip Creſſener, of Attleburgh, eſq. Suſan wife of ſir Edward Windham, of Felbrigg; and Catherine, of ſir Henry Bedingfield, of Oxburgh.

Judge Townſhend died Nov. 9, 8th of Hen. VII. and his lady ſome years after. They were buried in the chancel of St. Mary's church, Eaſt Rainham.

Roger,

Roger, eldeſt ſon of the judge, was bred to the law, and, among other gentlemen of worth and dignity of this county, was appointed a commiſſioner by act of parliament, for aſſeſſing, &c. a ſubſidy of one hundred and ſixty-three thouſand pounds, by a poll-tax, in the 5th of Henry VIII.

In the 10th of the ſaid king, he covenanted to ſerve the king with ten men at arms; was thrice ſheriff of Norfolk; in 1525 received the honour of knighthood; (Collins ſays it was on the king's return from Bulloign, anno 37th of Henry VIII.) was one of the maſters in the court of requeſts in 1529; and in the ſaid year one of the king's council, with the biſhop of Lincoln; and a feoffee of the manor of Kilverſton for the duke of Norfolk, and had of the manor of Scales, in Rainham, from the king.

In 1543, he purchaſed of ſir John Huddleſton the lordſhip of Ingoldeſthorpe, in this town, and in the following year, in commiſſion with the duke of Norfolk, &c. to raiſe a benevolence for the king, and knight of the ſhire in parliament, anno 33d of of the ſaid king; and by a letter from the duke of Somerſet, dated at the Tower, Feb. 12, anno 1ſt of Edward VI. required, with the earl of Suſſex, ſir William Paſton, &c. on the death of Henry VIII. to take care of the peace of the ſaid county.

He died Nov. 20, 1551, and was buried in the chancel of Eaſt Rainham church. He conſtitutes Roger, the grandſon of his brother John, heir to his lordſhips, lands, &c. in Eaſt, South and Weſt Rainham, Helhoughton and Barmer; lands, &c. in Over and Nether Guiſt, Twyford, Wood-Norton, Bintre, Broomſthorpe, Tofts, North Baſham, Shereford and Saham; the rectory of Barwick; lands, &c. in Stanhoe, Ryburgh Parva, and Oxwick.

John Townſhend, eſq. ſecond ſon of the judge, lived moſtly at Brampton in Suffolk; by Eleanor his wife, daughter of ſir John Heydon, of Bacanſthorpe, knight of the Bath, he had Richard his eldeſt ſon. This John died Auguſt 4, 1540, before his eldeſt brother ſir Roger.

Robert, the third ſon, married Alice, daughter and heir of Robert Poppy, eſq. of Lincolnſhire; was ſerjeant at law, a knight, juſtice of Cheſter, ſteward of Pentney priory, had a penſion on its diſſolution, lord of South-Hall, in Over and Nether Guiſt, of Wood-Norton, Twyford, and Foxleys, had the rectory of Guiſt and advowſon of the vicarage, ſeiſed alſo of the Auguſtine friery of Ludlow, in Shropſhire; died in the 3d and 4th of Philip and Mary, leaving Thomas his ſon and heir, (as was found by an inquiſition taken at Salop, Aug. 11, 1556) aged 22: from him deſcended the Townſhends of Bracken-aſh in Norfolk, of Glouceſterſhire and Shropſhire.

George Townſhend, eſq. was the fourth ſon, and married a daughter of ſir Richard Thurſton, ſheriff of London in 1516, and had a ſon Giles. George was executor to his brothers Thomas and Giles, and living in 1554.

Thomas, the fifth ſon, from whom deſcended the families at Teſterton, Cranworth, and Wretham.

Giles was the ſixth ſon: to him ſir Robert his brother, on December 3d, in the 35th of Henry VIII. then ſerjeant at law, granted the rectories of Whitwell and Barwick, the manor of Guiſt, the rectory and manor of Ryburgh Parva, with the manor and rectory of Helhoughton in Norfolk, their court

court leets, in all which (except Whitwell) they enfeoffed their brother Roger.

Richard Townſhend, eſq. ſon and heir of John Townſhend, eſq. (ſecond ſon of the judge ſir Roger, and brother to ſir Roger Townſhend, who died in 1550) was aged 22 at his father's death in 1540; he married Catherine, third daughter and coheir of ſir Humphry Brown, of Ridley in Cheſhire, a juſtice of the common pleas; died May 9, 1552. His wife ſurvived him, and re-married John Roper, eſq. of Eltham in Kent, maſter of the king's bench office. Richard had by her Elizabeth, married to Thomas Godſalve, eſq. of Buckenham-Ferry, and a ſon Roger, his heir, and heir to his great uncle ſir Roger, appointed by his will in 1550. This Richard lived alſo, as his father, at Brampton.

This Roger, ſon and heir of Richard, was a minor at his father's death, and proved his age in 1564. In the year 1588, we find him in the Engliſh fleet, in the fight againſt the Spaniſh armada; and on the 26th of July, in the ſaid year, was knighted by the lord high admiral, Charles Howard, at ſea, with the lord Howard, lord Sheffield, John Hawkins, and Martin Frobiſher; and as the aforeſaid lords had a principal command in the ſaid fleet and engagement, ſo no doubt had this Roger, who is named next to them, and before Hawkins and Frobiſher.

He died at Newington by London, June 30, 1590, and was buried in the church of St. Giles, Cripplegate, at London. By Jane his lady, youngeſt daughter of ſir Michael Stanhope, of Shelford in Nottinghamſhire, (anceſtor of the earls of Cheſterfield and Stanhope) he left John, his eldeſt ſon, and Robert, created a knight in 1603: and married Ann, daughter

daughter of William lord Spencer, who died: ſir Roger's lady ſurviving him, re-married Henry lord Berkeley.

John Townſhend, ſon and heir of ſir Roger, married Ann, daughter and coheir of ſir Nathaniel Bacon, of Stifkey, or Stuky, in Norfolk; was lord of that town, of Langham and Merſton. In a duel with ſir Matthew Brown, died of his wounds on Auguſt 2, 1603, leaving Roger his eldeſt ſon, and Stanhope his ſecond ſon, who died alſo of his wounds in a duel in the Low Countries, and unmarried. His lady ſurvived him many years, dying May 20, 1630, and was buried at Rainham. Ann, their daughter, married ſir John Spelman, ſon and heir of the renowned ſir Henry Spelman.

In 1591, we find John Townſhend, eſq. of Norfolk, to give the ſenior proctor's ſtaff to the univerſity of Cambridge, of which he had been a member, in Trinity college; and probably was this ſir John, who was knighted for his valour by the earl of Eſſex at Cadis, in Spain, in 1596.

Roger, his ſon and heir, was a minor, aged eight years on his father's death, created a baronet April 16, 1617: on the 20th of May, 1620, he had licence to travel for three years, with three ſervants, and neceſſaries, but not to go to Rome, as appears by the council book. He built the preſent ſeat of Rainham-hall, and was knight of the ſhire for Norfolk. By Mary his wife, daughter and coheir of Horatio Vere, lord Vere of Tilbury, of the noble family of the Veres, earls of Oxford, he had Roger and Horace, his two ſons, and five daughters: Mary, married to Thomas lord Crew, of Stene in Northamptonſhire; Jane, to John Windham, eſq. Ann,

to

to William Cartwright, of Aynhoe in Northamptonſhire; Elizabeth, who died ſingle; and Vere, to ſir Ralph Hare, bart. of Stow-Bardolph. He died January 1, 1637-8, aged 41, having granted three or four of his appropriations to the church.

The lady Mary, his relict, married Mildmay Fane earl of Weſtmoreland, by whom ſhe had Vere Fane, earl of Weſtmoreland, and dying in 1673, was buried at Rainham on the 22d of May,

RAINHAM-HALL, built by the laſt-mentioned ſir Roger Townſhend, bart. is perhaps the moſt delightful ſituation in the county of Norfolk, and has been greatly improved by the preſent lord. The park and woods are beautiful, and the lake below an object peculiarly ſtriking. Extenſive lawns, and opening views into the country, enrich the enlivening proſpect all around. The country cultivated, and teaming in the ſummer months with fruitful crops of various hues, while the blended ſhades of green and yellow diſtinguiſhed through the trees, diſplay the bounties of nature in its moſt enchanting pride.

The houſe was built by that unrivalled artiſt Inigo Jones. There are ſeveral very valuable pictures in it; amongſt the reſt, a picture of Beliſarius, the Roman general, diſtinguiſhed by a reverſe of fortune ſcarcely ever experienced but by himſelf: this picture was given to Charles lord viſcount Townſhend, ſecretary of ſtate, by the late king of Pruſſia. Some connoiſſeurs are of opinion, that it is not the picture of Beliſarius, but of Caius Marius.

PICTURES

PICTURES at RAINHAM.

In the common Dining Parlour.

Sir John Townſhend, Ætat. ſuæ 28, 1599.
Captain Townſhend and Mr. Pelham, by Jervaſe.
Three pieces of fowls, very good,
Lord Townſhend, when young, by ſir Godfrey Kneller.

Withdrawing Room.

Lord Townſhend's ſecond lady, 1722, (half length) by ſir G. Kneller.
Col. Townſhend's lady, (half length) by Jervaſe.
Governor Harriſon, (whole length) by ditto.
His lady (whole length) by ditto.
Lady Weſtmoreland, Lord Townſhend's grandmother.
Two landſcapes of beaſts, exceeding good.

Grand Dining Room.

Queen Anne, whole length, by ſir G. Kneller.
King George I. (ditto) by ditto.
King George II. (ditto) by Jervaſe.
Queen Caroline, (ditto) by ditto.
Mr, Thomas Townſhend, by ditto.

Withdrawing Room.

Two ſons of Lord Townſhend, in one picture, by ſir G. Kneller.
Dutcheſs of Newcaſtle, by Jervaſe.
Dutcheſs of Dorſet, by ditto.
Family picture of Lord Townſhend's ſeven children, by ditto.
Two ladies, (half lengths) by ſir Peter Lely.

In

In the Saloon.

Whole lengths of Officers.

Over the chimney.

1. Lord Vere, commander.
2. Sir Simon Harcourt, ſerjeant-major.
3. Sir John Burroughs
4. Sir William Lovelace
5. Capt. Febel
6. Sir Michael Everard
7. Sir John Borlace
8. Sir Thomas Wynne
9. Capt. Milles
10. Sir Thomas Gates
11. Sir Jacob Aſtley
12. Sir Henry Peyton
13. Sir Robert Carey
14. Sir Andrew Lewkener

} Captains.

Some of them are drawn much better than the reſt, viz. No. 1, 3, 4, 12, which ſeem to be by Cornelius Johnſon; No. 14 is ſaid to be by Lawſon; the reſt are very uncertain.

Summer Parlour.

Whole lengths of Officers.

1. Sir Gerard Herbert.
2. Sir Edward Narwood, captain.
3. Sir Thomas Dutton, captain.
4. Sir Thomas Conway, captain.
5. Sir Edward Vere, lieutenant-colonel.
6. Sir John Borlace.

Theſe are not near ſo good as the other; but like thoſe, all in the dreſs of the times.

Dining Room above Stairs.

Lord Townſhend, (whole length) by Kneller.
Lord Townſhend's firſt lady, by ditto.
His lordſhip's ſecond lady, copied after a picture of ſir G. Kneller's.
Horatio lord Townſhend, (whole length) by ſir Peter Lely.
Horatio Townſhend, ſecond brother to my lord, (half length) by Richardſon.
Horatio lord Townſhend's lady, (half length) by ſir Peter Lely.
Sir Roger Townſhend's lady.

Over two doors.

Lord Lynn, (half length) by ſir G. Kneller.
Lady Lynn, (ditto) by Jervaſe.
Lord Vere, (whole length) by ditto.
Beliſarius, (a preſent from the king of Pruſſia) by Salvator Roſa.
Sir Roger Townſhend.
Col. Townſhend, third brother to my lord, (half length) by Riley, or Cloſterman.
Horatio lord Townſhend, (half length) by ſir Peter Lely, or Zouſt.
Sir Joſeph Aſhe, (half length) by ſir Peter Lely.
Sir Joſeph Aſhe's lady, a copy after ſir Peter Lely.
Col. Townſhend, third ſon to lord Townſhend, by Jervaſe.
Lady Cornwallis, by ditto,
Sir Robert Walpole, (half length) by ſir G. Kneller
Sir Robert's lady, by ditto.
King Charles II. by Riley.
Galfridus Walpole, eſq. (half length) by Hudſon or Jervaſe.

Lady

Lady Sunderland, (half length) by Jervaſe.
King of Sweden.
Lord Fairfax, by Lov. Bois.
Sir William Jones and his lady.
Achilles diſcovered in Lycomedes's palace.
Lord Scarborough, in garter robes, by Kneller,
King of Sardinia, a preſent from the king himſelf to commodore Townſhend.

Some of theſe are now in other rooms.

Sir Roger Townſhend, bart. eldeſt ſon of ſir Roger aforeſaid, (ſee page 100) was a minor at his father's deceaſe; and, dying in his minority, was ſucceeded in honour and eſtate by his brother ſir Horatio, a minor alſo, in ward to the King, born in 1630, created baron Townſhend, of Lynn-Regis in Norfolk, April 20, 1661, and viſcount Townſhend of Rainham, December 11, 1682, was in great favour with Charles II. who paid him a viſit at Rainham in 1671; was made lord lieutenant of the county of Norfolk, and city of Norwich, in 1662.

He married, in 1649, Mary, daughter and heir of Edward Lewkener, eſq. ſon and heir of ſir Edward Lewkener, of Denham in Suffolk, knt. who brought into the family that town, and other valuable eſtates. She died, in 1673, without iſſue, and was buried at Rainham on the 22d of May. His ſecond lady was Mary, daughter of ſir Joſeph Aſhe, of Twickenham in Middleſex, bart. by whom he had his ſon and ſucceſſor Charles, and Roger Townſhend, eſq. member of parliament for Yarmouth in Norfolk, who died unmarried, May 22, 1709, and was buried at Rainham. His third ſon was Horace, member of parliament for Heyteſbury in Wiltſhire, and one of the commiſſioners of the exciſe.

Charles, lord viſcount Townſhend, was born in 1675; king Charles and the duke of York were his godfathers. He was a nobleman of great honour, worth, and ability, as the poſts that were conferred on him teſtify; a governor of the Charter-houſe, one of the privy-council, knight of the garter, ſent ambaſſador by queen Anne to the States General, captain of the yeomen of the guard, a commiſſioner for the union, choſe by king George I. one of the regency in his abſence, principal ſecretary of ſtate, appointed lord lieutenant of Ireland, (which he declined) preſident of the council, and again ſecretary of ſtate, in which office he continued till he reſigned it in May 1730: his lordſhip was alſo lord lieutenant and cuſtos rotulorum of the county of Norfolk.

His firſt wife was Elizabeth, ſecond daughter of Thomas lord Pelham, by whom he had four ſons; Charles, who ſucceeded him; Thomas, member of parliament for the univerſity of Cambridge, one of the tellers of the exchequer; William, aid-de-camp to king George I. member of parliament for Yarmouth; Roger, member for Yarmouth on his brother's death, and captain of a troop of horſe. Elizabeth, the daughter, married the lord Cornwallis.

By Dorothy, his ſecond wife, daughter of Robert Walpole, eſq. of Houghton, and ſiſter to Robert Walpole, earl of Orford, he left George, lieutenant of a man of war; Auguſtus, captain of an Eaſt-India ſhip; Horatio, commiſſioner of the victualling office; and Edward, rector of Pulham in Norfolk, deputy clerk of the king's cloſet, D. D. prebendary of Weſtminſter, and dean of Norwich.—This lord died on June 21, 1738. Dorothy, one of his daughters by this lady, married Spencer Cooper,

per, D. D. dean of Durham; the other, Mary, married the Hon. Edward Cornwallis, eſq. member for Weſtminſter.

Charles, his eldeſt ſon and heir, was ſummoned to parliament May 24, 1723, as lord Lynn, in the life of his father; was lord of the bed-chamber to king George I. commiſſioner of trade and the plantations; maſter of the jewel office; died at Rainham March 13, 1764. He married Audrey, daughter and heireſs of Edward Harriſon, eſq. governor of Fort St. George in the Eaſt-Indies, and of Balls in Hertfordſhire; by whom he had,

1. George, (king George I.) being his godfather.

2. Charles, who married the Hon. the counteſs of Dalkeith, relict of the earl of Dalkeith, ſon and heir to the duke of Buccleugh, member for Yarmouth, and paymaſter of the king's forces.

3. Roger, a lieutenant-colonel, killed at Ticonderago in America.

4. Edward, who died young; and,

5. Audrey, an only daughter.

George, the preſent lord viſcount Townſhend, being bred to arms, was colonel of the 28th regiment of foot, brigadier, and gained much honour on the taking of Quebec, when the command of the army devolved to him by the death of Gen. Wolfe, who was killed in the heat of the action, and the ſecond in command, Gen. Monckton, was carried off the field wounded. His lordſhip, after filling the important poſt of lord lieutenant of Ireland, was ap-

pointed maſter general of the ordnance, is a lieutenant-general, colonel of a regiment of dragoons, and one of his majeſty's moſt honourable privy-council. He was knight of the ſhire for Norfolk, from 1747 till his acceſſion to the peerage in 1764,

His lordſhip married the right hon. lady Charlotte, (only daughter and heir of the earl of Northampton) and lady baroneſs Ferrers of Chartley in her own right. Her ladyſhip died in Ireland, during the government of lord Townſhend: her remains were brought to England, and interred in the family vault at Rainham, and her eldeſt ſon, George, ſucceeded to the barony of de Ferrers, baron of Chartley, and has taken his ſeat as lord Ferrers in the houſe of peers.

Lord Townſhend has ſince married a daughter of Mr. Montgomery in Dublin, agent to moſt of the regiments on the Iriſh eſtabliſhment, member of parliament for the borough of Ballynakill, and lately created ſir William Montgomery, bart. of Macbiehill, Peebleſhire, North-Britain.—The preſent lady Townſhend, with her two ſiſters, one married to Luke Gardiner, eſq. member of parliament for the county of Dublin, and the other to the right honourable John Beresford, member of parliament for the county of Waterford, are eſteemed amongſt the moſt beautiful and accompliſhed women of the age.

His lordſhips arms are, azure, a chevron, ermine, between three eſcallops, argent, Townſhend; and quarters, 1ſt. gules, a chevron, between three fleurs de lys, or, Hauvile, or Haywell;—2d. argent, a lion rampant, and cruſily of croſs croſlets, gules, crown'd, or, Brewſe;—3. ſable, a croſs ingrailed, or, Ufford;—4. gules, a croſs, argent, in a bot-

a bordure, engrailed, or, Carbonel;—5. argent, a chevron, gules, between three croſs croſſets, fitchee, azure, Shardelow;—6. gules, a chevron, between three lions gambs, erect and eraſed, in a bordure, argent, Brown;—7. per bend, ſiniſter, or, and ſable, a lion rampant, counterchanged, Francis;—8. quarterly, ermine, and gules, Stanhope;—9. gules, on a chief, argent, two mullets, ſable, Bacon;—10. quarterly, gules and or, in 1ſt quarter, a mullet, argent, Vere;—11. azure, three chevronels, argent, Lewkener.——Creſt, a buck paſſant, diamond, attired, or:—ſupporters, on the dexter ſide, a buck, diamond, on the ſiniſter, a greyhound, argent.—Motto, *Hæc generi, incrementa, fides.*

Scales Manor. Another part or moiety of Hugh de Montfort's lordſhip came to the family of lord Scales. This moiety, or lordſhip, was that of South Rainham.

In a *computus* of the bailiff of this manor, anno 5th of Edw. III. we find wheat ſold at 3s. 4d. per quarter, and about Lent at 8s. per quarter.—Barley at 3s. 4d.—Peaſe at 6s. 8.—Oats at 4s. 6d.——A buſhel of hemp ſeed, 2s.—Six long hurdles, (claiis) 6d.—A Scot (bought in to fat) 6s. 6d.——For the making of twelve capons, 1d.—For ten geeſe, 2s.—Four ſtone of cheeſe, 3s. 8d.—One buſhel of ſalt, 4d.——Paid for threſhing of wheat, 3d. per quarter.—Barley, 1d. *ob.*—Oats, 1d.—Peaſe, 3d.——For the fanning, or cleaning, *(ventilatione)* of nine quarters of corn, 2d.——For the mowing 22 acres of paſture, 9s. 2d. per acre, 5d.

Paid a carpenter for three days work, 10d.—A ſhepherd's, or neatherd's wages for one year, 3s.—A carter's, 40d.—A ſwineherd's, 12d.—For the

carriage of a ſwan from this town to Wilton, by Brandon, with, &c. 2d.

For the farm of twenty-one new milch cows, and their calves, for one year, 6l. 6s. every cow valued at 6s. and ten calves were excepted of the beſt for the lady of the manor, (lady Scales;) and for the farm of nine hens, 2s. 3d. each hen at 3d.

In this family of the lord Scales it continued, till Elizabeth, the only daughter and heir of Thomas, lord Scales, the laſt of that ancient family, brought it by marriage to Anthony Woodvile, earl Rivers, and lord Scales, who being attainted and beheaded in the reign of king Richard III. that king gave it, with many other lordſhips, to his great favourite, John Howard, duke of Norfolk; but on the acceſſion of Henry VII. to the crown, that duke being attainted, it remained in the crown, till granted, in the 29th of Henry VIII. to ſir Roger Townſhend, and ſo continues, being united to the other lordſhips in this town.

Havile, or Hauvile's Manor. This was the next capital manor in this town. At the ſurvey it was in the hands of the Conqueror, and Godric took care of it, or farmed it of him.

This lordſhip remained in the crown many years, till king Stephen gave it, with other manors, to William de Caineto, or Cheyney, in exchange for Mileham; on condition, that if he or his ſon ſhould like Mileham better, that they might renounce it, which Cheyney did ſoon after, and ſo was again lodged in the crown; and the ſaid king granted it to the Hauviles, in whoſe poſſeſſion it remained till the Townſhends had it by marriage.

In

In 1333, James de Hauvile gave the king ten marks, for licence to have a fine to grant to Robert Tiffour and Maud his wife, the manors of Rainham and Dunton, and that they might regrant them to the ſaid James, and Ann, daughter of of James Wace, and the heirs of James and Ann; and in 1345, ſir James Hauvile was lord; and in 1354, Roger de Caſton, who was rector of Rainham St. Mary, was found to hold it in truſt.

Soon after, this lordſhip of Rainham-Hauviles came into the family of the Townſhends, by the marriage of Elizabeth, daughter and heir of ſir Thomas de Haywell, or Hauvile, knt. to Lewis de Townſhend; as Collins, in his peerage, obſerves; but this does not appear from any records, or evidences, that we have met with; and if an heireſs of Hauvile was married, as is above obſerved, only ſome part or portion of this manor came to the Townſhends by that marriage.

The Scogans, a family of good account, were about this time poſſeſſed of the principal part of this lordſhip, and had their reſidence here. Robert Scogan, of Rainham, was a witneſs to a deed of ſir Thomas de la Rivere, knt. lord of Sporle, in 1361. Thomas Scogan, eſq. was in the retinue of the great Norfolk commander, ſir Robert Knolles, in 1378, and attended John, king of Caſtile and Leon, and duke of Lancaſter, in his expedition into Spain.

John Scogan, of Eaſt-Rainham, clerk, was lord of Hauviles in 1379.

In 1391, John Scogan, *(Capellane)* aforeſaid, died ſeiſed of the manor of Hauviles, and Henry his brother

brother was found to be his heir. This was, as we preſume, that Henry Scogan, famous for his wit and humour in the time of king Henry IV. who wrote a ballad directed (as Stow informs us) to prince Henry, the king's ſon, Thomas duke of Bedford, and Humphry, duke of Glouceſter, at ſupper with the merchants of London; an author out of whom the ſaid hiſtorian (as he tells us) gathered materials, and was buried in the cloiſters of Weſtminſter abbey.

In 1420, William Champneys, of Oxwick, confirmed to William Marchall, eſq. of Eaſt-Rainham, Thomas Scogan, &c. ſeveral lands in Eaſt-Rainham field and Oxwick,

About this time lived Walter de Townſhend, who is ſaid to have married Maud, daughter of ſir Roger Scogan, who probably brought with her all Scogan's right in this manor. After this we find no mention made of any of that family as lords here: but in Edward IV.'s reign lived John Scogan, deſcended moſt probably from this family, a celebrated poet. Bale ſays, he was by nature a jocoſe and a witty man, profited ſo much in philoſophy, and other liberal arts, that he was A. M. at Oxford, and was ſo greatly eſteemed for his ſmart and witty expreſſions, that he was ſent for by king Edw. IV. to court; where, as another Democritus, he turned all into jokes, mirth and laughter; publiſhed certain comedies, and a book, *Ad proceres Curiæ*, &c. Sir Richard Baker alſo mentions him as a learned gentleman, and a ſtudent ſometime at Oxford: from him came the proverb, *What ſays Scogane?*

John Townſhend, eſq. who lived in the reign of Henry VI. was undoubtedly lord of the manor of Hauviles,

Hauviles, died ſeiſed of it in 1465, from which time it has remained united to that of Ingoldeſthorpe, &c.

BIGOT'S, or SHERBOURN'S MANOR. Roger Bigot had alſo at the ſurvey a ſmall lordſhip here.

This Roger Bigot was a principal commander under king William I. and attended him in his expedition into England, and was anceſtor to the earls of Norfolk of that name; but on the marriage of his daughter Maud with William de Albini, the king's chief butler, anceſtor to the earls of Arundel, it came to the ſaid William, and ſeems to be held of the Albini's by the ancient family of Rainham, who took their name from this town.

Sir Edmund de Reynham, knt. was living in 1379.

After this we find no mention of the family of Rainham in this town.

In the reign of Henry VI. it came into the family of Townſhend. Sir John Townſhend held it in queen Elizabeth's time, and was found to die ſeiſed of it in 1603, and it remains united with the other manors in the ſaid family.

The EARL OF CLARE'S FEE, Rainald, ſon of Ivo, had this lordſhip given him by the Conqueror.

In 1176, Pope Alexander III. by his bull, confirmed to John, biſhop of Norwich, the lands which William Fitz-Boteri gave to him in Weſt-Rainham.

John Atte Townſhend was found to hold it of Roger Mortimer, earl of March; and in the family of

of Townſhend it appears to be in the years 1424 and 1459, and remains ſo at this time, being united to the other lordſhips.

Beſides theſe lordſhips which were at the time of the conqueſt, there were alſo ſome little ones, or free tenements, which aroſe afterwards out of theſe principal ones, viz. Hall's, Payne's and Morehouſe, found on the death of ſir Roger Townſhend, bart. to be held of the manor of Ingoldeſthorpe, Staple's manor in Rainham, held of the manor of Hauviles, by ſoccage, and paying 2s. per ann.

Here was alſo the manor of Rouſe's. In 1407, it was poſſeſſed by Henry Scogan; and in 1409, Robert Scogan enfeoffed certain perſons in the manors of Rouſes and Hauviles, and afterwards came to the Townſhends, together with Hauviles; and John Townſhend, eſq. died ſeiſed of them in 1465.

Normansburgh Priory. At a place ſo called in South-Rainham, William de Liſewis founded a little priory, about 1160, for the health of his own ſoul, that of Maud his wife, and Godfrey his ſon, dedicating it to the bleſſed Virgin, and St. John the evangeliſt, appointing it for a cell to the priory of Caſtleacre, and endowing it with lands. Several donations were afterwards given to this priory.

This manor came from the Liſewiſes, by two daughters and coheirs, to the Ingaldeſthorpes and Scales's.

The duke of Norfolk had a grant of it at the diſſolution, and in 1554, on March 4, died ſeiſed of it; but in the 33d of Henry VIII. it was in the king's hands, and farmed of the king, called the manor

manor of Lewſewiſs: afterwards it came to the Townſhends, and in 1564 Roger Townſhend held all thoſe, late the duke of Norfolk's, called Normanſburgh.

RAINHAM ST. MARY'S Church, In this town were three churches, of which this was the chief, called alſo Eaſt-Rainham, and is a rectory.

It conſiſts of a nave, with two iſles, and a chancel covered with lead, and has a four-ſquare tower, and four bells. On the ſouth ſide of it is a curious large dial, with a clock, erected at the charge of the late Charles, lord viſcount Townſhend, and on the north ſide of the church and chancel, a dormitory, but no monuments.

Againſt the north-eaſt part of the chancel is a very fair tomb, but without any inſcription, erected to the memory of ſir Roger Townſhend, the judge, agreeable to the will of the lady Elianore, his wife, with a canopy, &c. of ſtone work. On it were the arms of Townſhend;—azure, a chevron, ermin, between three eſcallops, argent, and that of Hauvile's, quarterly;—gules, a chevron, or, between three de lys, argent,—impaling, quarterly, azure, a chevron, between three boars heads, couped, or, Lunsford,—and argent, three chevronels, gules, a file in chief of three points, azure, Barrington.

On a marble grave-ſtone: — *Orate p. aia. Johs. Townſhend, filii Rogeri et Elianore, qui obiit iiii die Octob. Ao. Dni. M.CCCC.LXV.*

Orate p. aia. Georgii Townſhend, filii Rogeri Townſhend, Armigeri.

Robert

Robert Wolvey, of Rainham Magna, buried here in 1524, gave by will to the repair of this church 3l. and a croſs of ſilver of the price of 10l, and makes his ſpecial, and moſt truſty maſter, ſir Roger Townſhend, ſuperviſor of his will.

RAINHAM ST. MARGARET, or WEST-RAINHAM. This church has a nave, and a north iſle, covered with lead, and a chancel with tiles.

The patronage was anciently in the manor of Hauvile's, and was given by ſir Thomas Hauvile, with one acre of land, to the priory of Miremond, in the iſle of Ely, by fine, in 1316.

The Rev. Mr. Robert Adkin is rector of Rainham St. Mary's with St. Margaret's, conſolidated Dec. 29, 1721, preſented by lord Townſhend in 1770.

RAINHAM ST. MARTIN, or SOUTH RAINHAM. On the diſſolution of Blackburgh priory, the rectory, and advowſon of the vicarage, were granted May 5, anno 3d of Edw. VI. to ſir Roger Townſhend.

Soon after this it became a rectory again, and Henry Baldwin was rector.

This rectory was annexed to Helhoughton in 1748, and the Rev. Charles Allen was preſented to the living by the late lord Townſhend, the ſame year.

RUDHAM, EAST, was the lordſhip of the earl Warren, held by Ralph, anceſtor of John de Cheyney, who founded Coxford priory, and whoſe daughter, Emma, brought it to Michael Belet, in 1150, by marriage.

This

This Michael was a judge in the 32d of Henry II. and high ſheriff of Leiceſterſhire, in the 29th, 30th, &c. of that king.

In the 16th of king John, Hervey Belet was lord, and had a grant of a fair to be held yearly. This Hervey gave to the priory of Coxford this lordſhip.

COXFORD PRIORY MANOR, takes its name from its ſcite on a ſmall ſtream, or rivulet, in this pariſh. Cock, or Cocker, occurs as the name of a river, as Cockermouth in Cumberland, Cockley, and Cockfield, in Suffolk.

John de Cheyney was a great benefactor, or founder of it, for canons of the order of St. Auſtin, who gave them the churches of Eaſt and Weſt-Rudham, with their appurtenances.

Hervey Belet gave them the lordſhip of Eaſt Rudham, with lands in Geyton, Marham, Syderſtone, Barmer, and Croſtwick, &c. for the maintenance of an hoſpital at Boycodeſwade, built by him, and a ſecular chaplain to ſerve therein for ever.

In the 11th of Henry III. the prior had a grant of a fair, which was confirmed in the 35th of the ſaid king, with piccage, ſtallage, &c.

In this priory were an abbot and nine black canons.

King Hen. VIII. on the 9th of May, in his 29th year, gave the manor of Eaſt Rudham, with the ſcite of the priory of Coxford, the impropriate rectory, and patronage of the vicarage, to Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk.

In

In the 21ſt of Elizabeth, Philip Howard, earl of Arundel, ſon to the ſaid duke, had licence to alien it to ſir Roger Townſhend, whoſe immediate heir, the Right Hon, George, lord viſcount Townſhend, is the preſent lord.

The abbey church was ſtanding (as ſir Hen. Spelman relates) in the reign of king James I. and in part of the abbey lived Henry Cornwallis, eſq. (in the time of queen Elizabeth) and in a parlour here were the arms of the duke of Norfolk, in a garter; and in a chamber, azure, a chevron, between three croſſes, pattee, or; Calybut, quartering, or, a ſaltire vert: creſt) a greyhound, paſſant, azure, pierced on the ſhoulder with a martlet, argent.

Ann Calybut, daughter and coheir of Edgar Calybut, ſerjeant at law, was ſecond wife of the ſaid Henry Cornwallis, eſq.

A parcel of Roman coins, in a little pot, were ſaid to be found in the ruins of the priory in 1719.

The church of Eaſt Rudham is dedicated to St. Mary, and was appropriated to the priory of Coxford.

In a ſouth window of the chancel are the arms of John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaſter, France and England, quarterly, with a label of three points, ermine, impaling Caſtile and Leon, quarterly.

The preſent vicar is the Rev. Mr. Lancaſter Framingham, preſented by the preſent lord Townſhend in 1771.

RUDHAM, WEST. Rudham, at the ſurvey, included both Eaſt and Weſt Rudham, being not at that time diſtinguiſhed by the name of Eaſt and Weſt, both which belonged to the earl Warren, the capital lord.

FERRER'S MANOR. This lordſhip was in the family of de Cheney, and came by the marriage of Margaret, daughter and heir of William Cheney, ſon of Ralph de Caineto, to Hugh de Creſſi, a Norman, in the reign of Henry II. whoſe ſon, Roger de Creſſi, married Iſabel, daughter and coheir of Hubert de Rie, and widow of Jeff. de Cheſter. This Roger being with the barons in arms againſt king John, his lands wete ſeiſed, and given to Robert de Ferrers; and Henry de Ferrers was found to hold the fourth part of a fee in the reign of Henry II. Sir Guy de Ferrariis was living in the 15th of Edward I. as was Edmund de Ferrers, of Weſt Rudham, in the 31ſt of the ſaid reign, and John de Ferrers in the reign of Edward II. and one of the ſame name occurs in the 20th of Edward III.

William Ruſſel, Gent. lord of this manor, married Agnes, daughter of Thomas Walpole, Gent. of Houghton, and had by her Thomas, his ſon and heir; and by Edith his wife, daughter and heir of Thomas Auſtin, of Weſt Rudham, left Henry his ſon and heir, who took to wife Elizabeth, daughter of William Calybut, of Coxford, eſq. and was living in the reign of queen Elizabeth, and lord.

The Right Hon the earl of Orford is the preſent lord.

CASTLE-ACRE PRIORY MANOR. At the diſſolution, Thomas, the prior of Caſtle-acre, conveyed

this manor to king Henry VIII. in his 29th year; who ſoon after, December 22, in the ſaid year, conveyed it to Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk; and Philip, earl of Arundel, in the 21ſt of Elizabeth, had licence to alienate it to ſir Roger Townſhend, whoſe direct heir and ſucceſſor the Right Hon. Charles lord viſcount Townſhend was lord, and now George, lord viſcount, his ſon.

NORTHALL, or ST. FAITH'S MANOR. From the family of Valoins it came to the lord Robert Fitz-Walter, (by the marriage of Gunnora, daughter and heir of the lord Robert de Valoins, who was lord of it in the reign of king John) and he granted it to the priory of St. Faith's, of Horſham.

King Henry VIII. on Feb. 16, in his 35th year, granted it to his beloved counſellor, ſir Richard Southwell, and Edward Elrington, eſq. together with the ſcite of the priory of St. Faith's, in conſideration of the nunnery of Denney, &c.

Richard Southwell, eſq, was lord in the 8th of Elizabeth, and in the 15th of Elizabeth had a præcipe to render to ſir Thomas Cornwallis his manor of Northall in Weſt Rudham.

It was afterwards united to the manor of Ferrers, and was poſſeſſed by ſir Roger Townſhend in 1588, in which family it remains.

The temporalities of Coxford priory here, valued at 32s. 4d. per ann. in 1428. Theſe were granted to the duke of Norfolk, with the impropriated rectory, the patronage of the vicarage, and afterwards came to the Townſhends, as above.

The

The church of Weſt Rudham is dedicated to St. Peter, and was given by Hervey Belet to the priory of Coxford, and appropriated thereto.

The patronage of this vicarage, as well as that of Eaſt Rudham, which were conſolidated October 18, 1720, is in lord Townſhend: the preſent vicar, being Mr. Lancaſter Framingham, was preſented to the living in 1771.

The chapel of All Saints, in the church-yard of St. Peter of Weſt Rudham, is mentioned in 1493.

Thomas Auſten, of Weſt Rudham, by his will in 1557, was buried in the church. A grave-ſtone, with a braſs: *In memory of Henry Ruſſell, of Weſt Rudham, Eſq. who died September* 3, 1606; and in the chancel a grave-ſtone for, *Elizabeth Daniel, wife of Robert Daniel of London, merchant, who died* 1626.

On a grave-ſtone lately put down, in 1778, to the memory of Mr. William Money, farmer, and tenant to the lord viſcount Townſhend, his father and grandfather, who died in 1777:

Titles and trophies deck the ſtateman's grave,
And pompous tombs immortalize the brave:
Yet rural virtue finds the road to fame,
And boaſts no title but an honeſt name.
A plain good man lies here.—Heralds ſay more,
Who uſher pageants at the abbey-door!
The path of honeſty Will. Money *trod:*
"An honeſt man's the nobleſt work of God."
Vain epitaphs the author's genius ſhow,
While all is duſt, mere duſt, that lies below:
'Tis all mere duſt!—the reſt the poet's wit,
Or whether 'tis Will. Money *or* Will. Pitt.

RYBURGH MAGNA, ſo called from its ſcite by the river, as Ryſing, &c, was at the ſurvey the lordſhip of Peter de Valoins; and Ralph Facto was enfeoffed of it by his lord, Peter de Valoins.

John de Munpinzun had a charter for free warren here, and in Ingoldeſthorpe, in the 9th of Edward I.

In the 18th of Edward II. it was forfeited by Robert de Walkefare, probably on his taking part with the queen Iſabel, and many of the barons, &c. againſt her huſband.

It appears that the ſaid Robert was reſtored on the acceſſion of king Edward III.

In the 8th of Richard II. a fine was levied between Joan, widow of ſir Thomas Felton, (who died in or about the 4th of that king) and ſir John L'Eſtrange, knt. and Alianore his wife, daughter of ſir Richard Walkefare, of this manor, thoſe of Derſingham and Ingoldeſthorpe, who for 500l. conveyed the ſame to the lady Joan, appearing by this to be a moiety of the ſaid manors, &c.

In the 6th of Henry VI. this lordſhip ſeems to be in the Cokerells; and Catherine, widow of John Cokerell, ſenior, of Aſhfield in Suffolk, poſſeſſed it; whoſe ſon John dying before her, left a daughter and heir, Catherine: ſhe died poſſeſſed of it and the advowſon, in the 10th of the ſaid king.

On the diſſolution, king Henry VIII. on the 10th of March, in his 30th year, granted it to ſir William Butts, knight, and Margaret his wife, daughter and heireſs of —— Bacon, of Cambridgeſhire, for life.

He

He was doctor of phyſic, educated at Cambridge, chief phyſician to the king, one of the founders of the college of phyſicians at London; in whoſe records he ſtands highly characterized for his eminent learning and knowledge, ſingular judgment, and great experience, and is much extolled for his learning by many authors, who lived in his time; was knighted by the name of William Butts of Norfolk, and dying the 17th of November, 1545, was buried in the church of Fulham, by London. He left three ſons,

Sir William, the eldeſt, was lord of Thornage in Norfolk, who married Joan, the eldeſt daughter and coheir of Henry Buers, of Aketon, or Acton in Suffolk, eſq. he was eminent for his valour, and had an augmentation of honour on a canton in his arms, and was ſlain at Muſſeburgh Field in the 1ſt of Edward VI.

Thomas Butts, eſq. the ſecond ſon, was lord of this manor, and married Bridget, ſecond daughter and coheir of Henry Buers, eſq. aforeſaid, but dying without iſſue, as his elder brother ſir William did, Edmund Butts, eſq. of Barrow in Suffolk, the third brother, was his heir, and lord of this town; and by Ann, third daughter and coheir of the aforeſaid Henry Buers, had Ann, his only daughter and heir; who brought this lordſhip by marriage to ſir Nicholas Bacon, of Redgrave in Suffolk, eldeſt ſon and heir of ſir Nicholas Bacon, lord keeper of the great ſeal, by Jane his firſt wife, daughter of William Fernley, eſq. of Cretynge in Suffolk, who was created the firſt baronet in England, May 22, 1611, and ſir Edward Bacon, bart. his deſcendent, died poſſeſſed of it.

Butts bore, azure, on a chevron, between three eſtoils or, as many lozenges, gules.

The church of Ryburgh Magna is a rectory, dedicated to St. Andrew.

On the north ſide of the chancel, an altar tomb with ſeveral arms, but no inſcription. On a grave-ſtone near it: *Sir Robert Bacon, of Redgrave in the county of Suffolk, Bart. deceaſed Dec.* 16, 1655, *and Dame Ann his wife, the* 27*th of Sept.* 1640.

The patronage of this rectory is in Mrs. Mary Bacon, eldeſt daughter of ſir Edmund Bacon, late of Garboldiſham, premier baronet of England, and many years knight of the ſhire for the county of Norfolk.

In the year 1761, the preſent rector, the Rev. Charles Mordaunt, ſon of ſir Charles Mordaunt, bart. (knight of the ſhire for Warwickſhire) and rector of Little Maſſingham, was preſented to this living by Mrs. Bacon.

RYBURGH PARVA, ſeems to have been held of the earl Warren by Peter de Valoins.

PAVELI'S MANOR. This ſeems to have been held by the ancient family of De Paveli, in Richard I.

In the 46th of Edw. III. Elizabeth, wife of Richard Talbot, anceſtor of the earls of Saliſbury, held in demean eight fees. She was daughter of John Comyn, of Badenagh, heir to Valence, earl of Pembroke, and held them of the caſtle of Acre.

Beſides the family of Paveli, the family of Wood-Dalling held a part of this manor of the earl Warren,

Warren, and had a right in the patronage of the church, as will afterwards appear.

In the 4th of Henry VII. Roger Townſhend, eſq. and Ann his wife, held this lordſhip: in this family it remains, the right honourable George lord viſcount Townſhend being the preſent lord.

Binham Priory Manor. The lord Valoins had a lordſhip alſo in this town, granted to him by the Conqueror,

Tyrus, who was enfeoffed of this lordſhip under the lord Valoins, was anceſtor of the family of Wood-Dalling, and is ſometimes called (as we take it) Turald de Daling.

At the diſſolution, it came to the Paſtons of ——, and after to the Bacons; and ſir Edmund Bacon died poſſeſſed of it in 1755,

St. Faith's, or Horsham Priory Manor. In the 6th of Edward I, the prior held a part of the barony of Valoins.

At the diſſolution it was granted, Dec. 3, anno 35th of Henry VIII. to Robert and Giles Townſhend, eſqrs. on the payment of 29s. 3d. *ob.* per ann. They were younger ſons of ſir Roger Townſhend, who ſoon after had licence to alienate it to ſir Roger, their brother; and ſir John Townſhend was found to die poſſeſſed of it in the 1ſt of king James I. in which family it remains, the right hon. George lord viſcount Townſhend being lord.

Wood-hall Manor. It was in the priory of Walſingham, in the 3d of Henry IV.

At the diſſolution it was granted to ſir William Butts, M. D. from whoſe family it came to the Bacons.

The church is dedicated to All-Saints.

The rectory was granted by king Henry VIII. in his 33d year, to ſir Thomas Paſton, knt. with the patronage of the vicarage.

The Rev. Charles Mordaunt is the preſent rector of this and Great Ryburgh, conſolidated June 18, 1750, being preſented by Mrs. Bacon in 1761.

SCULTHORPE, was a lordſhip belonging to the earl Warren. It is called in the book of Doomſday Sculetorpa, a thorp on a ſhoal, or ſhallow ſtream, or water.

The family of De Pavili, or Pavilley's, were ſoon after the conqueſt enfeoffed of this lordſhip.

John, earl Warren and Surrey, by deed, dated at Lincoln Auguſt 5, in the 10th of Edward II. gave to ſir Walter de Norwich this manor and advowſon, in exchange for that of Skredington in Lincolnſhire.

In the reign of Richard II. ſir Robert Knolles, knight of the garter, and Conſtantia his lady, were poſſeſſed of this manor.

As this ſir Robert was a perſon of remarkable merit and eminency, for his conduct and valour in his time, and as he lived and died at his manor-houſe in this town, we ſhall take the liberty of inſerting ſeveral occurrences of his life, that we have met with from old evidences.

He

He is by moſt authors ſaid to be born of mean parentage in the county of Cheſhire, though Dugdale ſeems to ſuggeſt the contrary, as if deſcended from a family of note, or account, in their times: he was at firſt however a perſon of low fortune, but betaking himſelf to a military life, he became an eminent commander under king Edward III. in the wars in France, from being a common ſoldier, and acquired great fortunes; had a grant of White-caſtle, and that of Fenchery, in Britany; and in the 32d of that king, took the city of Auxerre, &c. for the king of Navarre.

In 1360, Conſtantia, his wife, ſailed over into Britany, and carried to his aſſiſtance twenty men of arms, fourteen archers on horſeback, &c. and had provided for him at her own charge, three ſhips and two crays; and in 1365, John duke of Britany, for his ſervices, gave him many lands, &c.

In the 44th of the ſaid reign, he was retained to ſerve the king again in the wars of France for two years, from the nativity of St. John the Baptiſt, in 1370, with two thouſand men of arms, and two thouſand archers; none of the men to be raiſed out of Northumberland, Durham, or Weſtmoreland; and ſo great was the deſtruction he made, that the ſharp points, and gable ends of the houſes, &c. that he overthrew, were called *Knowles's Mitres*.

In the 2d year of king Richard II. he was with John, duke of Lancaſter, in his Spaniſh expedition, and had letters of protection then, dated July 16, being a knight of the garter.

In the 4th of Richard II. he had a grant of the manor of St. Pancras, in Middleſex, to him and his

his wife Conſtantia, and for his good ſervices in ſubduing Wat Tyler's rebellion, was enfranchized a member of the city of London in the ſaid year; and having made a vow to go to Rome, had, in the 13th of that king, a licence for himſelf and twelve perſons, and for what money he would by a bill of exchange, and to ſtay there as long as he would, with protection for all his lands, tenants, and ſervants, during the time of his abſence.

In the 3d of Henry IV. John Gerneys releaſed to him, and ſir Hugh Brown, knight, two meſſuages and thirty-four ſhops, in the pariſh of St. Mary at Hill, in Billingſgate ward, London, to be ſettled on ſir Robert's college, or hoſpital, at Pontefract in Yorkſhire.

He died full of years, aged 92, at his manor-houſe in this town, (Grafton ſays at London) on Auguſt 15, 1407, and was honourably buried in the body of the church of the Carmelite Friers, in Fleet-ſtreet, London, by his lady Conſtantia. Who this lady was does not appear from any hiſtorian that we have ſeen. In the church of Harpley, and in this of Sculthorpe, are the arms of ſir Robert, who bore, for the moſt part, gules, on a chevron, argent, three roſes of the firſt ſeeded, or, impaling argent, a feſs daunce, between three leopards faces, ſable, bore by Beverley, a family of good account in Yorkſhire, which we preſume was her name. Leland ſays ſhe was of mean birth, and born at Pontefract in Yorkſhire, and prevailed on her huſband to found the college there, and not at Sculthorpe, as he intended. As a knight of the garter, he had ſupporters to his arms;—two naked ſavages, ſtanding by two trees; the creſt, a ram's head, as appears from his ſeal.

He

He obtained in the wars of France ſuch immenſe wealth, that king Richard II. pawned ſeveral of his moſt valuable jewels and ſilver veſſels to him; and as his fortunes were great, ſo were his charitable acts and works equal to them. He built the ſtately bridge at Rocheſter over the Medway, with a chapel, and a chauntry at the eaſt end of it; the churches of Sculthorpe and Harpley, and re-edified the conventual church of the White Friers, for the moſt part.

In the 4th of Richard II. he had licence to amortiſe to the Carthuſian priory, in London, 40l. per ann. out of the manor of Dunſtall in Kent.

In the 8th of that king, licence was granted to him, and Conſtantia his wife, to found the college of Pomfret, in a houſe of theirs, and the king then incorporated them; and on June 11, in the 10th of Richard II. ſir Robert granted to Robert Braybrook, biſhop of London, ſir John Cobham, knight, John Drew, clerk, and John Seymour of London, all his manors, lands, tenements, advowſons, &c. in Norfolk. This was in order to ſettle them on the aforeſaid college.

In the 8th of Henry IV. ſir Robert conveyed by fine to his truſtees, John Drew, and John Seymour, of London, this lordſhip, with thoſe of Dunton, Kettleſtone, Tatterford, Tatterſet, Burnham, &c. and by an inquiſition taken at Eaſt Rudham in Norfolk in the ſaid year, on Tueſday after the Annunciation of the Virgin, before William Roos, the king's eſcheator, it was found that it would not be to the king's loſs, &c. if he granted licence to John Drew, parſon of Harpley, and John Seymour, of London, to give and aſſign to John Stedman, maſter, or cuſtos, and the chaplains of the college of the Holy

Holy Trinity, called Knolles's Alms-houſe, in Pontefract, and their ſucceſſors, the manors of Sculthorpe, Dunton, Kettleſtone, Tatterford, Burnham-Overy, with the appurtenances, and the advowſons of the churches of Dunton cum Doketon, Tatterford, and Sculthorpe, for their maintenance, and that of the poor men therein, ſerving God; and it was then found that this lordſhip was held *in capite*, by the third part of a fee, and valued at 20l. per ann. beyond all repriſes.

Leland obſerves, that it was a college, with an hoſpital joined to it; in the college was a maſter, with ſix or ſeven prieſts, and in the hoſpital thirteen poor men and women, and was valued at 180l. per ann. Beſides the meſſuages, &c. in London, &c. above-mentioned, there was alſo one in Darlington ſettled on the ſaid hoſpital.

On the diſſolution of the ſaid hoſpital, this lordſhip, with the advowſon of the rectory, was granted May 17, in the 3d of Edward VI. to ſir William Fermor, and ſir Richard Fulmerſton; ſir William dying ſeiſed of it, it came to his nephew, Thomas Fermor, eſq. of Eaſt Baſham, who, in the 24th of Elizabeth, aliened by licence five meſſuages, ſix tofts, two hundred acres of land, and one hundred and forty-ſeven of paſture, in this town and Fakenham, to Salathiel Kynderſley, clerk.

William Fermor, eſq. ſon of Thomas, was lord in 1627, whoſe daughter and heir, Mary, being married to James Calthorpe, eſq. he was lord in her right, and ſhe dying without any ſurviving iſſue, it came to his ſon, ſir Chriſtopher Calthorpe, who died ſeiſed of it in 1717, and by his daughters and coheirs, to ſir Thomas L'Eſtrange, bart. and on his death

death to ſir Henry, his brother, as in Eaſt Baſham, and on his death to his two ſiſters and their heirs.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary, or All Saints.

In the chancel, on a braſs,

Here lyeth Sir John Brown,
Sometyme Pariſh Prieſt of this town.

This church is a rectory, and the patronage is in Daniel Jones, eſq. of Cranmer, and his eldeſt ſon, Mr. Matthew Jones, is the preſent rector, preſented in 1767.

During the life of the late lord Townſhend, the preſent lord Townſhend reſided at Cranmer for many years, and greatly improved and ornamented the houſe and buildings.

SHERFORD, alias SHERINGFORD. In Doomſday-book it is wrote Sciraforda, that is, a ford over a clear water, and was the lordſhip of the earl Warren.

Sir Richard de Plays was lord of this manor in the time of Henry VI. whoſe daughter and heireſs married John earl of Oxford.

The Wingfields, and lord Latimer, were lords of of it in the reign of queen Elizabeth.

The family of the Townſhends were after lords of Plays manor in Sherford, in the reign of queen Elizabeth; and ſir Roger Townſhend, bart. in 1630, in which family it remains, the right hon. George lord viſcount Townſhend being the preſent lord.

In

In this town was a water-mill, with twenty acres of land, held of ſir John Howard's manor, which belonged to Knolles's hoſpital at Pontefract, and at the diſſolution of it were granted to ſir William Fermor, and ſir Richard Fulmerſton, anno 3d of Edward VI. May 14, and was part of the manor of Tatterford.

The church is dedicated to St. Nicholas.

The patronage of Sherford is in lord Townſhend, who preſented the Rev. Mr. James Cory to the rectory in 1766.

SNORING PARVA, alias NAREING. The king's manor of Fakenham extended into this village.

This was poſſeſſed by the family of De Hauviles, by *petit ſerjeanty*; after them Thomas de Mileham, in the 8th of Edward III. and afterwards by Nicholas de Attechurch.

The earl Warren had alſo two ſocmen, with lands here, belonging to his manor of North Baſham.

But the principal lordſhip was, at the ſurvey, in Peter de Valoins.

WALCOTE and BOLES MANOR. Ralph, who held this lordſhip under the lord Valoins, was probably the anceſtor of the family of De Snaring, of this town.

Ralph Le Strange was found to be heir in the 33d of Edward I.

Robert

Robert de Berney, and Margaret his wife, one of the daughters and coheirs of of ſir Walter de Walcote, had this manor.

Catherine, widow of John Cokerell, of Albergh-Wykes in Suffolk, died ſeiſed, the 6th of Hen. VI. of the manor of Walcote's and Bole's in this town.

In the 29th of Henry VI. George Heath, of Mildenhall, releaſed to Humphry duke of Bucks, all his right in Walcote's and Bole's manor; but in the 18th of Henry VII. Chriſtopher Conyers conveyed it to the Heydons.

About 1570, ſir Chriſtopher Heydon was lord; and ſir William Heydon ſold it to ſir George Kingſmill, who was lord in 1603; after this it was ſerjeant Gwin's; and Mr. Matthew Helcotte poſſeſſed it; then ſir Jacob Aſtley, bart. was lord, and ſir Edward, his ſon, now poſſeſſes it.

The church is dedicated to St. Andrew, and a rectory; it is covered with lead, the chancel is tiled, has a round tower, with three bells, and ſtands diſtant from the church about eight feet.

The Rev. Mr. William Herne is patron of this rectory, and preſented Mr. John Herne in 1774.

STIBBARD, STABERD, or STIBERDE, called in Doomſday-book Eſtanbyrda, and Stabyrda. The family of De Pavili was, ſoon after the conqueſt, enfeoffed, by the earl Warren, of this lordſhip, and was alſo ſeiſed of the king's manor here belonging to Fakenham.

In the 5th of Edward II. Robert de Repps was lord and patron.

In

In the 9th of Henry IV. Henry Scogan was lord; and in the 12th of Henry VI. Richard Boſoun, eſq. John Champneys, clerk, &c. releaſe to Thomas Champneys, clerk, by deed dated July 10, all their right in this manor.

Roger Townſhend, eſq. and Ann his wife, held it, with the advowſon of the church, in the 4th of Henry VIII. and by an inquiſition taken November 1, in the 1ſt year of king James I. ſir John Townſhend was found to die ſeiſed of the manor of Stibbard, held of the king's manor of Fakenham, in ſoccage, and paying 3s. 4d. per ann. and that of Pavili's, held of the manor of Sculthorpe, in free ſoccage, and in this honourable family it continues.

The church is dedicated to All Saints, and is a rectory, conſolidated with Colkirk in Launditch hundred. It has a nave, with a north iſle, and a ſquare tower with two bells.

The patronage of this rectory is in lord Townſhend, who preſented the Rev. Mr. Thomas Martin in 1769.

SYDERSTONE, Sedistern, or Siderstorne. This town belonged principally to Alan, earl of Richmond, at the grand ſurvey.

This Alan was alſo earl of Britany in France, a principal commander in the deciſive battle near Haſtings, and married Conſtance, one of the daughters of William the Conqueror. By this family the Kerdeſtons were enfeoffed of this lordſhip, of the manor of Richmond in Yorkſhire.

In

In the 12th of Henry VII. May 25, Edmund de la Pole, earl of Suffolk, granted to Elizabeth Robſert, widow of ſir Terry Robſert, for life, and to William Robſert, her ſon and heir, all his right and title in this lordſhip.

John Robſert, ſecond ſon of ſir Terry Robſert, was lord of this manor, and ſheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk, in the 1ſt year of Edward VI.

Soon after this he died, leaving by Elizabeth his wife, daughter of John Scot, of Camberwell, eſq. in Surry, a daughter and heir, Ann.

Ann, his daughter, married ſir Robert Dudley, afterwards earl of Leiceſter, who had a grant of this manor.

This lady came to an unhappy death at Mr. Foſter's houſe at Cumnore, near Oxford, by a fall from the ſtairs, and was buried in St. Mary's, the univerſity church at Oxford. The earl held this manor for his life, dying lord of it in 1588, when it came to John Walpole, eſq. ſon and heir of Edward Walpole, eſq. of Houghton, and Lucy his wife, daughter of ſir Terry Robſert, and in this family it remains, the right hon. George earl of Orford being lord.

Castle-acre Priory Manor. In the 3d of Henry IV. the prior held the manor of Sydeſtern Wyks of the earl of Arundel.

In the 29th of Henry VIII. the prior conveyed it by fine to the king, and the king to the duke of Norfolk.

COXFORD PRIORY. This was granted May 9, anno 29th of Henry VIII. to Thomas duke of Norfolk.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary, and has a nave, and a ſouth iſle, covered with lead, (the north iſle is down) with a round ſteeple, and one bell.

On a mural monument of ſtone, in the chancel, with the arms of Corbet;—or, a raven proper, impaling Thornton;—argent, a chevron between three holly branches, vert.——*In memoriam Mariæ ſpectatæ probitatis, uxoris nuper Edwi. Corbet, rectoris hujus eccleſiæ filiæ Rogeri Thornton, equitis aurati de Snailwell, in com. Cantabr. quæ uniquam poſt ſe relinquens filiolam Mariam nomine, ſanctiſſime obiit in fide cultuq. Jeſu, Ao. Dni.* 1630, *Aug.* 27.

Jane Peyton, daughter of ſir Edward Peyton, of Iſleham in Cambridgeſhire, Knt. and Bart. by dame Jane his wife, living virtuouſly, and dying comfortably, was buried February 8, *A. D.* 1632. Her picture is on the wall, kneeling, and an angel ſtanding at each ſide.

The earl of Orford is patron of this rectory, and the Rev. Charles Bagg, D. D. miniſter of St. Margaret's in Lynn Regis, the preſent rector, preſented to the living in 1760.

TATTERFORD, ſo called from the river Tat. Humphrey de Bohun had a grant of it at the conqueſt.

Humphrey de Bohun was a kinſman to William duke of Normandy, and attended him on the conqueſt of this realm, and is called Humphrey with the

the Beard, moſt of the Normans then ſhaving their faces. It does not appear that he was poſſeſſed of any other lordſhip in Norfolk, at the general ſurvey, than this of Tatterford; and was anceſtor to the Bohuns, earls of Hereford and Eſſex. It is probable this lordſhip remained not long in this family.

In the 9th of king John Henry de Hauvile was lord, who granted to Pagan de Tatterford his right of preſentation to this church, with a *ſalvo jure*.

Afterwards it was in ſir Robert Knolles, who had free warren here in the 2d of Richard II. His right herein came from ſir James Hauvile and ſir Robert Tyffour, and was ſettled by him on his college, or hoſpital, of Pontefract in Yorkſhire, with the advowſon.

On the diſſolution of this hoſpital, it was granted May 17, in the 3d of Edward VI. to ſir William Fermor and ſir Richard Fulmerſton. Thomas Fermor, eſq. of Eaſt-Baſham, ſold it to Thomas Grave, eſq. of Lynn, whoſe daughter and heir brought by marriage to Henry Vilet, eſq. this lordſhip, with that of Tatterſet.

The prior of Coxford had lands here, farmed by Henry Fermor, eſq. in the 7th of Henry VIII.

The church is dedicated to St. Margaret, and is a rectory.

TATTERSET, ſo called as being ſeated on a rivulet, or ſtream, called anciently the Tat. In ancient and modern writings it is frequently wrote Tatterſet, alias Gateſend.

Remerus held it under the earl Warren, the capital lord at the ſurvey.

Remerus ſeems to be the anceſtor of the family of De Pinkenye, lords of this town.

PINKENY'S MANOR. William de Pinkeni by deed, *ſans* date, confirmed to Ralph the prieſt, his kinſman, and to his brother John, the lands here.—Ralph was once in the year to attend on, and ride out with William, at his charge, &c.

James de Pynkeney was lord in the 9th and 15th of Edward III. About this time ſeveral of this family had an intereſt here.

After this it was poſſeſſed, in part, by ſir Robert Knolles, who ſettled it on his college or hoſpital of Pontefract, as in Sculthorpe: and, on the diſſolution of that houſe, was granted May 17, in the 3d of Edward VI. to ſir William Fermor and ſir Richard Fulmerſton. Thomas Fermor, in the 16th of Elizabeth, had licence to convey them to Thomas Grave, Gent.

Catherine, daughter and heir of Thomas Grave, merchant, and mayor of Lynn in 1567, 1574, and 1584, brought it by marriage to Henry Vilet, of King's Lynn, merchant, and mayor in 1590 and 1599.

Henry, by Catherine his wife, was father of Grave Vilet, of Pinkeny hall, eſq. who by Jane, daughter of William Butts, of Shouldham-Thorpe, eſq. and Jane his wife, daughter of —— Cocket, of Brunſthorpe, had Thomas Vilet, his ſon and heir. Grave Vilet, ſon of Thomas, married Frances, daughter of John Brown, of Briſley, Gent.

George

George Vilet, eſq. was the laſt heir male of this family, and left, by Frances, ſeveral daughters and coheirs; Diana, married to ſir Robert Drury, bart. who died without iſſue; Ann, married to Charles Wright, eſq. of Kilverſtone; and Frances, to John Harris, eſq. of Burnham. The lady Diana Drury died poſſeſſed of this town, and then it came to the Wrights of Kilverſtone, and Charles Wright is the preſent lord.

The prior of Coxford had a manor here, which was granted, May 9, by king Henry VIII. in his 29th year, to Thomas duke of Norfolk.

SENGHAM, was an hamlet belonging to Tatterſet. In this town were two churches, St. Andrew's and All Saints.

The church of All Saints was a rectory, in the patronage of the priory of Caſtle-acre, in the reign of king Edward I. as was alſo St. Andrew's church.

The Rev. Mr. John Wright, jun. was preſented to the united rectories of Tatterſet St. Andrew, with All Saints, alias Gateſend, and Tatterford, by Thomas Wright, eſq. in 1767.

In the church of Tatterſet are grave-ſtones: *In memory of John Walpole, eſq. who died Dec.* 11, 1654. —*Edw. Pepys, eſq. who died* 22*d Dec.* 1663, *aged* 46. —*Anna Pepys, daughter of Edward, who died Sept.* 8, 1655.

TESTERTON, was the lordſhip of Peter de Valoins at the ſurvey, out of which Toka, a freeman, was expelled at the conqueſt.

It

It is called in Doomſday-book, Eſtretuna, being ſeated by a running water, or river, that comes from Fakenham.

The family of De Snaring, lords of Snoring-Parva, enjoyed it under the family of De Valoins.

In the 12th of Henry VI. July 10, Thomas Champney, clerk, was lord.

Roger Rawlyn was lord in 1395, and preſented to the church.

Agnes, the daughter of William Rokewode, eſq. of Warham, jun. ſettled this lordſhip on her huſband, ſir Nicholas Appleyard, of Bracon-aſh in Norfolk, who died lord in 1511.

John Appleyard, eſq. was lord in the 2d of Edward VI. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Hogan, eſq. of Eaſt Bradenham, was high ſheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk in 1558, and bore for his arms, azure, a chevron or, between three owlets, argent. This John ſold to Thomas Townſhend, eſq. this lordſhip; and in 1572 John Stanley, Gent. is ſaid to hold it in right of his wife, (probably relict of this John) the reverſion being in Thomas Townſhend, then a minor, ſon of Thomas Townſhend, who purchaſed it of Appleyard, and was a younger ſon of ſir Roger Townſhend, knt. of Rainham, by Ann his wife, daughter and coheir of ſir Thomas Brewſe; which Thomas Townſhend, eſq. married Elizabeth, daughter of John Calybut, of Caſtle-acre, eſq. and left Thomas, his ſon and heir, who by Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Richard Catlyn, of Honingham, ſerjeant at law, had Thomas Townſhend, eſq. and by Elizabeth his wife, daughter

ter of Richard Timperly, of Hintleſham in Suffolk, eſq. left Dorothy, his daughter and heir, who brought this manor by marriage to Thomas Bedingfeld, eſq. whoſe ſon and heir, Anthony, married Ann, daughter of ——, who was his widow in 1621. Thomas Bedingfeld, eſq. his ſon, died in ——, and left Anthony Bedingfeld, eſq. lord of this town, and of Holm-Hale, and dying in 1707, Francis, his ſon and heir, ſold it to John Curtis, eſq. of Wells.

Mr. Benoni Mallet, of Dunton, is the preſent lord, 1757.

The church of Teſterton is dedicated to St. Remigius, and is a rectory.

The Rev. Mr. Anthony Carr was preſented to this rectory in 1749, by Meſſrs. William Lake, Thomas Waterhouſe, and John Curtis.

TOFTREES, or TOFTES. Part of this town was a beruite to the earl Warren's manor of Sculthorpe.

It is called in Doomſday-book, Toſsas and Toftes, and ſeems to take its name from *toft*, a dwelling, and *ſas* or *es*, by the water: ſome conceive it to take its name from Rys, (being called afterwards Toftrys) from a family that lived here in the reign of Richard II.

The noble family of De Playz were, ſoon after the conqueſt, enfeoffed of many lordſhips by the earl Warren.

Sir Hugh de Playz was lord in the reign of king John, and one of the rebellious barons againſt him.

Richard

Richard de Playz, in the 53d of Henry III. as one of the nephews and heirs to the lord Richard Montfitchet, paid his relief for the third part of Montfitchet's lands, and was lord of this manor in the 40th of Henry III.

Sir Richard de Playz, had a fummons to parliament in the 11th, &c. of Edward II. and paid to the hundred court of Brothercrofs.

Richard, his heir, by his wife Margaret, daughter of fir Walter de Norwich, left John, his fon and heir, aged eighteen years, who married Joan, daughter of fir Miles Stapleton, of Ingham in Norfolk, and by her had a daughter and heir, Margaret, married to fir John Howard, anceftor of the dukes of Norfolk.

Sir John Howard, by Margaret, daughter and heir of fir John Plaiz, had a fon, fir John Howard, who died in 1410, and by Joan his wife, daughter of fir Richard Walton, left Elizabeth, his daughter and heir, who married John Vere, efq. earl of Oxford, beheaded in the firft year of king Edw. IV. whofe grandfon John, earl of Oxford, dying without iffue, this lordfhip came to his three fifters and coheirs; Elizabeth, married to fir Ant. Wingfield; Dorothy, to John Nevill, lord Latimer; and Urfula to fir Edward Knightley; and Urfula dying without iffue, one moiety of the manor was vefted in the lord Latimer, and the other in Wingfield.

HEMPTON PRIORY MANOR. Henry, fon of Roger de Warham, releafed by fine to Richard, prior of Hempton, his right in a meffuage here.

In

In the 20th of Henry VII. this lordſhip was charged with an annuity of 20s. per ann. payable to Henry Fermor, eſq. of Eaſt Baſham, for life; and on the 9th of September, in the 37th of Henry VIII. granted to ſir William Fermor, and the lady Catherine his wife, and after, came with the patronage of the vicarage and the rectory, from the duke of Norfolk, to Rothwell, Clifton, and the lord Townſhend.

The manor of Hauvile's, in Rainham, extended into this town; and Thomas de Hauvile held it in the 30th of Edward I. Henry Scogan held it in the 9th of Henry IV. ſoon after it came to the Townſhends; and in the 27th of Henry VIII. was poſſeſſed by ſir Roger Townſhend, as may be ſeen in Rainham, and ſo was joined to the capital manor; the whole town being now in the lord Townſhend.

The Cliftons of this town were a family of good account.

In the 43d of Elizabeth, one Evans took the ſon of one Clifton, a gentleman of Norfolk, who was taught to ſing for his recreation, by virtue of a commiſſion to take children for the king's ſervice in his chapel, but he being a gentleman's ſon, Evans, for that offence, was grievouſly puniſhed.

The church of Toftes is dedicated to All Saints, and was a rectory.

Peter, lord Valoins, founder of Binham priory, confirmed to it, in the reign of Henry I. two parts of the tithes of this lordſhip.

Robert, prior of Lewes, and the convent, granted the appropriated rectory, and portion aforeſaid,

with the patronage of the vicarage, to the king, by fine, anno 29th of Henry VIII. and the king, on December 22, in the ſaid year, granted them to Thomas duke of Norfolk.

In the chancel, againſt the north wall, is a marble compartment, on the ſummit of which is the arms of Clifton; cheque, or, and gules, a bend over all, ermine, and in an oval, below it a globe, with an arm over it, iſſuing out of the clouds, holding a lilly, and this motto, *Mihi minus in lubricum*; in the center, on a black marble;

Siſte vivens, quia moriturus es, et meditare mortuos—

Fueri HENRICUS CLIFTON, Armiger, et uxor Maria, filia Thomæ Croſts, de Felmingham, Armig. qui quondam trinj unius Dej et fide et timore freti vixere; dunc velle ſuo et pace manumiſſi, receſſere. Ille, A. D. 1620, *Ætat.* 57, *Illa A. D.* 1603, *æt.* 36. *Quorum jam nomina memoriæ et piæ et humanæ et officioſæ, non ingrate debita, ne cito nimis evaderent, aut Tu illorum neſcius abires, hoc nullo quaſi, (ſed quali potuit) mnemoſyno curavit filius.*

Quod tantum potui poſitis pro nomine, ſignis
Filius (unus enim bina de prole relictus
Huc uſq; exiſto) lacrymas et funera ſolvo.
Sic ego laſſatam (non duro tramite) vitam
Deponam placide, ſic me vixiſſe bonorum
Conſenſus memoret, nam non bene vivere, non eſt.
Sic tandem Ætherium moriturus adire parentem
(His ego privatus) mediter dum flebiis ultro
Circumſtet proles, quæ noſtrum nomen et omen,
Numine propitij conſſa et nomine Chriſti,
Promoveat, placidas, ſic, ſic juvat ire ſub umbras.
Τὸ γὰρ θανειν οὐκ αἰσχρον· αλλ' αἰσχρὸν θανεῖν.

The

The foregoing is a fine compoſition; the verſes are eaſy and claſſical, and the

"*Non bene vivere, non eſt.*"*

a ſentiment truly noble: A ſtrain of filial affection and piety runs through the whole, and ſtrongly recommends and marks the character of the young gentleman, who wrote the above, to the notice of all poſterity. Had Mr. Clifton kept twenty packs of fox-hounds, and built twenty noble houſes, his memory had never been half ſo honoured, as by the above grateful and elegant eulogium to his deceaſed parents.

The deanry of Toftrees comprehends twelve pariſhes, one of which, Colkirk, is in Launditch hundred.

The Rev. Mr. William Fiſher was preſented to the vicarage by the preſent lord viſcount Townſhend in 1766.

* "Not to live well is not to live at all."

